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Parliamentarians' Activities On Population and Development

History of Parliamentarians' Activities and It's Findings

APDA

The Asian Population and
Development Association (APDA)

Parliamentarians' Activities On Population and Development

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The Asian Population and Development Association
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Introduction

Parliamentarian Activities on Population and Development - A History of Parliamentarians' Activities on Population and Development and It's Findings is a collection consisting of the declaration of the International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (ICPPD) and the declarations of Asian Forum for Population and Development (AFPPD), Inter-American Parliamentarians Group (IAPG), Euro Parliamentarians Group on Population and Development (EPGPD) and the Forum of African and Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development (FAAPPD), which were established subsequent to the International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (ICPPD) held prior to the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in 1994 as well as the history of the activities of the parliamentarians.

The International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (ICPPD) was instrumental in energizing the activities of the parliamentarians relating to population and development and such activities are currently being carried out in all regions of the world.

One noteworthy activity of the parliamentarians since 1994 has been the establishment of a parliamentarian forum on population and development in the African and Arab countries, where previously no full-scale regional forum existed. AFPPD chairman Shin Sakurai, who served as the secretary-general and steering committee chairman of the ICPPD, advocated the establishment of this parliamentarians forum on population and development for the African and Arab regions. A steering committee was then set up in response to that appeal for the purpose of establishing a forum of parliamentarians in the African and Arab countries among participants from those regions. In 1997, a general meeting for establishment of the Forum of African and Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development (FAAPPD) was held in Capetown, South Africa, which resulted in the official launch of the forum.

With the implementation of this forum in the Africa and Arab countries, a framework for the activities of parliamentarians was established embracing all regions of the world.

It is not possible to force regions to accept solutions to the population problem, which can only truly be realized through an understanding of the people

based on a thorough comprehension of the actual conditions, including the culture and customs, of each region. The significance of the activities of parliamentarians in each region can also be found here. Within the region within the context of underlying regional homogeneity, exchanging information and adopting methods used by progressive countries will facilitate efforts to identify effective measures and enhance the effectiveness of solutions to population problems in the less progressive countries. More importantly, the parliamentarians selected in each country are in a position to grasp actual needs and are also able to approach the governments of their respective countries with actual knowledge of the situation. Due to their inherent nature, parliamentarians are able to play the role of a catalyst between the people and the government of each country and the international community.

The significance of the positive contribution of parliamentarians to population and development problems goes beyond this. They also undertake initiatives relating to those problems in the various countries as representatives of their constituents. Meanwhile, all life including humanity exists on this globe that we call the earth sharing the same destiny and overpopulation is bound to be the most serious problem that we face in the 21st century. As the population increases, we must assume that we live on a planet of ever more limited capacity. In our modern society, the problems of one country do not stop within the borders of that country but extend out to affect the entire world. By becoming involved in initiatives relating to population and sustainable development, the parliamentarians of each country are able to understand the meaning of the population problem. This means that the parliamentarians, who are the actual policymakers, recognize the limited nature of the globe that supports our lives and are able to comprehend the issues impacting the entire earth with which they must grapple.

By doing so, it becomes possible for the policies of each country to extend beyond the framework of the individual countries, enabling them to focus attention on the more important destiny of the earth and humanity.

The declarations of the parliamentarian conferences in this collection represent the agreement of more than 700 parliamentarians from more than 230 countries. In other words, this is the outcome and consensus derived from vigorous unrestricted debates conducted by democratically-elected parliamentarians. We see here essential and serious initiatives with insight into the future pursuing means for coping with population, social development, gender, food supplies and other global problems of vital importance calling for urgent solutions. Although these declarations are not legally binding or compulsory like the agreements and treaties

that are established between governments, they are of inestimable importance and value as recommendations presented by representatives of the people of each country. We strongly hope that the recommendations given here will be maturely deliberated and reflected in the policies of each country and in international agreements.

In addition, the international parliamentarian conferences held since 1994 referred to here were all held at the appeal of the AFPPD. During that time, the AFPPD has actively held national and regional seminars, a part of its ordinary activities, while continuing to take charge of the executive office duties for the international parliamentarian conferences and playing a key role in their implementation.

In the preparation of this document, we are pleased to have received the enthusiastic cooperation of the Inter-American Parliamentarian Group (IAPG) and the Forum of African and Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development (FAAPPD) as well as the Asian Forum for Population and Development (AFPPD), which has always joined in the activities, and I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all of them.

It is my earnest hope that this document will be a further step forward toward the solution of the future population and development problems and that it will be widely used.

Dr. Taro Nakayama
Chairman,
The Asian Population and Development Association

CONTENTS

International Conference of Parliamentarians
on Population and Development

CAIRO DECLARATION

ON

POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

3 - 4 September, 1994
Cairo, Egypt

CAIRO DECLARATION
ON
POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

1. We, the Parliamentarians meeting in Cairo, Egypt, on 3-4 September 1994, at the International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, to discuss the issues of population and development on the eve of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), issue the following declaration:

2. We welcome the Cairo Conference as a manifestation of the variety of human cultures and traditions. Despite differences in beliefs and customs, we are of the view that leaders and peoples of the world should help bring about universal harmony and cooperation. Parliamentarians have a major role to play in this regard.

3. We therefore attach great importance to a successful outcome of the International Conference on Population and Development, which comes at a pivotal time in the development of partnerships for global strategies identified in the series of United Nations conferences on environment, human rights, social development, and the role of women. We support the strategy of fully integrating population issues into all development planning policies and programmes. We therefore call on representatives to the ICPD to reach a consensus on the Programme of Action of the ICPD.

Population and Sustainable Development

4. Parliamentarians the world over have long recognized the delicate balance between population and natural resources. We believe that the population issue should be seen not in isolation, but within the larger context of sustainable development of the planet for the betterment of humankind: economic activity that increases the quality of life for all people through curbing excessive consumption and generating productive growth; alleviating poverty; achieving sustainable agricultural and industrial production, energy and natural resources in

harmony with the environment; and improving health care and the quality of, and access to, education. Actions we take now to overcome the population and development problems of today will decide the future course of humankind. Resolution of such problems is essential to assuring dignity of all human beings. In addition, formulation of new and wide-ranging economic policies supportive of sustainable development, and initiation of international agreements based on such policies and approaches are essential.

Reproductive Health and Family Planning

5. We welcome the approach that places family planning in the broader framework of reproductive health care. We urge all national governments to make responsible efforts to resolve their population issues in a way that respects their own national and cultural identity, values and tradition. We therefore commit ourselves, as elected representatives of the people, to do our utmost to remove all remaining barriers in our countries that inhibit access to family planning services, information and education, as well as to help support the provision of reproductive health and family planning services as widely as possible. We further urge Governments to ensure that all population and development policies and programmes in our countries safeguard internationally recognized human rights.

6. We acknowledge the fact that abortions constitute a major public health concern for women all over the world. Since the use of family planning methods may prevent the prevalence of unplanned pregnancies, we call upon all national Governments to reduce the need for abortion by providing universal access to family planning information and services.

Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women

7. The empowerment of women and the improvement of their political, social, economic and health status are highly important ends in themselves. We further believe that human development cannot be sustained unless women are guaranteed equal rights and equal status with men. In this process women

should be seen not merely as the beneficiaries of change but as the agents of change as well. This entails an enhancement of their own gender awareness. We believe that education is the single most important element on the road to equality and empowerment of women. Education should also aim at eliminating negative gender stereotypes in order to improve the status of women, with a view to achieve cooperation and partnership between men and women. We therefore strongly support the education goals set forth in the ICPD Programme of Action as adopted in Cairo, and commit ourselves to removing all legal, social and cultural barriers in our countries that discriminate against women and prevent their full participation in society, including in public and political life. We call upon legislators all over the world to join us in our efforts to empower women as a matter of national priority, and we call upon Governments to enforce legislation in this respect.

Health and Mortality

8. Despite some improvements in human life expectancy, preventable and treatable illnesses are still the leading killers of young children and women. There remains at least half a million women dying annually from the complications of pregnancy and child-birth and 99.5% of these maternal deaths occur in developing countries. Large numbers of people remain at risk from infectious, parasitic and respiratory diseases. HIV/AIDS is the cause of a high incidence of deaths. Therefore the targeting of financial resources, particularly from donor countries, to these vulnerable groups is urgently needed to focus on reducing child and maternal mortality rates.

9. We therefore support the right of all people to have access to primary health care by the end of the current decade and pledge to work to reduce the disparities in health conditions and mortality risks between and within countries as detailed in the goals contained in the Programme of Action.

Resource Mobilization

10. The quality and success of population and development programmes depend, to a

considerable extent, on how strategically a country allocates its resources among various sectors. This in turn depends on the social, political, economic and cultural realities of the country and its population policy and programme priorities. We accept the responsibility as elected representatives of the people to translate public support for population and development activities into the most beneficial distribution of budgetary, human and administrative resources. We take note of the strong international consensus on the need to mobilize significant domestic and external financial resources and endorse the estimated resource requirements set forth in the draft Programme of Action. Additional resources to population and development programmes should be made available by shifting resources, especially from defense expenditures.

11. We therefore pledge to work to enact legislation to increase domestic funding for population and development programmes, as appropriate, and call upon the international community to provide the resources required to implement activities to reach the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action. At the same time, efficient use of existing resources is also important and should be pursued through such measures as decentralization, peoples' participation, a focus on target groups and an increase of national capacities.

Call to Action

12. Given our role in the civil society as representatives of people, we parliamentarians are uniquely placed to implement the ICPD Programme of Action, as adopted at Cairo, at the national and subnational level and to introduce a new concern for the planet and for humankind for the pursuit of national policies of our governments. We call on parliamentarians everywhere to:

- enact legislation to enable Governments to formulate and implement national population policies and programmes specifically, improvement of the legal, social, economic and cultural status of women;

- appeal to Governments which have not done so to sign the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, to have their parliaments ratify the convention and to monitor its implementation;

- establish mechanisms for parliamentarians to monitor and evaluate such policies and programmes on population;

- approve budgetary provisions to increase financial resources allocated to the implementation of population policies and programmes, and to enact legislation in support of such provisions;

- generate public support among constituents for the mobilization and allocation of domestic resources to support national population and development policies and programmes;

- create greater awareness among policy makers and the general public about population and development issues, within the global context of sustainable development;

- promote the active participation of local governments, community groups and non-governmental organizations, especially women's groups, in implementing the Programme of Action as adopted at the Cairo Conference;

- establish and/or strengthen, at subnational, national, regional and global levels, parliamentary committees on population and development;

- promote and expand cooperation among parliamentarians around the globe in the field of population and sustainable development.

From Commitment to Action

13. We hereby pledge to translate our personal commitment into political action as set forth in this Declaration, both in our national legislatures and elsewhere, as appropriate, and to encourage others to join us in meeting this urgent challenge.

Caribbean Workshop

"The New Population Decade 1994-2004"

RECOMMENDATIONS

Inter-American Parliamentary Group
On Population and Development (IAPG)

27 - 28 January, 1995
Belize City, Belize

We, Parliamentarians and Journalists who participated in the "The New Population Decade 1994-2004", held in Belize City, Belize, on January 27, 28, 1995, wish to contribute in the general manner to increasing the awareness of and sensitivity to the population problems of our countries, and to propose concrete mechanisms for solving those problems.

In terms of:

Eliminating Violence Against Women

Background:

Violence in general and violence against women are deeply entrenched in customs and traditions. Violence is widely glorified by the media including the press, television and popular music. The perception of women as a possession of their husbands and partners and their financial dependance on them, are contributing factors. Major contributors to the issue of violence, including domestic violence, are widespread conditions of poverty; lack of educational, training and job opportunities, particularly for young people; and problems of communication between men and women, among others. The current process of socialization, among both men and women, tend to perpetuate stereotypes and therefore the culture of violence.

1. Advocacy Efforts:

Organization of national committees to assess the impact and raise awareness about the problem.

Bring to the attention of CARICOM leaders the issues of violence against women and children.

Eliminating Violence Against Women

2. Educational Efforts:

Include gender sensitization programs in the school curriculum starting as early as possible, and continued throughout adolescence and beyond.

Encourage a strong role for the media through at least the following:

- Organize gender sensitization workshops for the media
- Use of radio programs to reach the general public
- Work with regional and national media organizations to place the issue of violence on their agenda.
- Carry out efforts to obtain appropriate funding for educational programs through the mass media.

Tap on organized community groups for education purposes. There is the need of strengthening the capacity of community groups, particularly women groups, to define solutions to issues of domestic violence. Need to put resources into this effort.

Organize counseling sessions for men on conflict resolution and on domestic violence. The group agreed that this type of counseling was more likely to be successful if conducted by trained male counselors.

Introduce CEDOW into the curriculum of several education organizations.

3. Legal Efforts:

Develop and put into action a Domestic Violence Act (several countries already have a DVA). This provides each country with an important legal framework. Exchange of information and experience among countries can be beneficial in the process of development and implementation of the act.

Develop and put into effect legislation that increases access of women to the process of development and to the attainment of financial independence such as access to credit, skills training and employment placement.

Put into effect legislation regulating the use of alcohol and other drugs.

Create media watch committees to analyze use of violence in the mass media.

Create conflict resolutions committees of peers that could provide a means of arbitration in domestic conflicts.

Organize police units' lead by women to deal with domestic violence. (this has been used in St. Kitts and has resulted in higher numbers of successful prosecutions)

Make the State the plaintiff in all reported cases, or in serious cases, of domestic violence.

Develop sentencing guidelines for magistrates and judges so as to eliminate disparities and inconsistencies.

Provide those convicted of domestic violence with rehabilitation mechanisms such as appropriate counseling.

Disseminate existing laws and regulations on domestic violence to potential beneficiaries in an accessible and confidential manner such as telephone hotline and/or through existing community networks and structures.

4. Programmes:

Create support systems like shelters and safe houses for battered women (a suggestion was made to change the name to crisis centers)

5. Data Collection and Analysis:

The information base on domestic violence should be improved by providing political and financial support to national statistical offices.

The participants agreed that, in order to transform rhetoric into action, the main

ingredients were:

- Political will.
- Definition of priorities.
- Allocation of resources.

Various national and international organizations can contribute with Caribbean governments in the actions they will undertake on this issue including IPPF, the CFPA, UNFPA, UNIFEM, the IAPG, the national family planning associations and others.

In terms of:

Sexually Transmitted Diseases and HIV Prevention

Background:

a. Regional situation:

The incidence of sexually transmitted diseases in the Caribbean is high and increasing. The actual number of cases of AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases could be as much as ten times higher than what the current statistics reveal. There are two likely reasons for this phenomenon: first, because of a pervasive problem of under-reporting, and second, because it takes as long as 10 years for HIV, which causes AIDS, to manifest itself. These factors make it difficult to assess the regional situation accurately.

b. Women and HIV/AIDS:

Both biologically, epidemiologically and socially, women are more vulnerable to HIV than men. Their generally subordinate position in the family and society renders them especially at risk of HIV infection. While the lower status of women differs from country to country, its universal effect is to restrict women's ability to protect themselves from the sexual transmission of HIV.

1. Advocacy Efforts:

Give priority to information and education campaigns that raise awareness about the issue, e.g. National Parliamentarians' Debates with white papers to look at the impact of AIDS and other STDs on the economy, the labor market, education and health services, and to define national action plans accordingly.

Make efforts to increase inter-sectoral collaboration between NGOs, community organizations, the private sector, health professionals, religious leaders and schools.

Impress upon the medical community the need to deal with STD patients on a more compassionate basis.

Develop more stringent infection-prevention programmes, so that every case is treated adequately insofar as it is a potential HIV case.

Design a plan to attract international, regional and local funding for STD programmes and services, in the face of rising costs but declining budgets.

Work with parents to reduce barriers to information and education.

Avoid a strictly medical approach to STDs and HIV prevention and treatment, so prevalent among certain professional groups, so that concerns about patients' rights and confidentiality do not serve as roadblocks to information gathering and long-term planning.

2. Educational Efforts:

Improve collaboration among regional organizations and international bodies for the production of messages and programmes on STDs and HIV prevention, in order to avoid duplication (ie. IPPF/WHR, CBU, CANA, IAPG, radio and TV spots).

Develop social marketing programmes (ie. posters and comic strips) to reach people at the workplace, and effective distribution through outreach services.

Sensitize media professionals, through eg. training session and conferences involving specialists, NGOs, producers and writers to better equip them to deal with these issues. The media professionals also stressed their need for technical information to produce programmes or write articles on these topics.

Use community theater as part of the information and education programmes.

Introduce sex education with family life education at elementary, secondary and tertiary levels.

3. Legal Efforts:

Conduct efforts to legal mandates for testing, that serve as a disincentive for people to come forward.

Consider exemption of taxes on medical supplies to make them cheaper. Countries should consider the example of Bahamas in waiving import duties on condoms.

Revise laws to cover the whole range of STDs as notifiable diseases. This would contribute to minimize the problem of under-reporting.

Institute legal measures to reduce discrimination and stigmatization of patients.

4. Programmes:

Make efforts to ensure that STD/HIV/AIDS programmes are integrated into the Health Care System and, conversely, to include family planning as part of HIV/AIDS counselling. Such coordination can help countries utilize currently available resources in a more cost-effective manner.

Emphasize the vital need that development and health strategies ensure that women have more control over their lives, their reproductive and sexual health and their fertility.

Provide for quality pre- and post-testing counselling.

5. Data Collection and Analysis:

Make all STDs reportable on a confidential basis, so as to ensure more better data collection.

promote investigative journalism to help remove the stigma of hemophilia, a key task for NGOs.

Encourage Ministries and Government departments to disseminate accurate information to the media.

The participants agreed that, in order to transform rhetoric into action, political will is crucial to changing existing policies and altering the allocation of government resources. More resources are needed to better meet the demands in the countries.

In terms of:

TEENAGE PREGNANCY

Background:

The problem of teenage pregnancy refers to children having children. Teenage pregnancy is a fact in the Caribbean and, to judge from the figures, a problem of sufficient dimension to justify its being transformed into an issue of regional concern. It is a problem that affects the individual, the household and the nation. For the individual person, the problem of teenage pregnancy is a defining factor for the future of the childmother. It limits her life chances to the minimum expectations of a modern woman. It also threatens the health of the mother and that of the child. Furthermore, the costs associated with teenage pregnancy are enormous. These costs are both psychological, medical and social. Teenage pregnancy not only affects the physical as well as mental well-being of teenagers and babies, but also strains the allocation and distribution of scarce resources by creating demands for

extensive adolescent health services.

1. Advocacy Efforts:

Given the spoken and unspoken pressures from the church, it is necessary to interface with churches on issues related to family planning and sexuality. Despite the stridency of the church hierarchy, NGOs need to find some negotiating space to identify allies and build strategies around that.

Put pressure on governments so that planning policies consider the key element of youth in all definitions of programmes and policies aimed at addressing socio-economic conditions, eg. employment, health delivery, etc.

Mobilize resources and build institutional support for redressing the disintegration of the family.

Promote the organization of Youth Parliamentary Debates, because they have proven very effective for bringing public and media attention to key issues.

Interface with policy makers on issues related to youth, especially the meeting of CARICOM Ministers of Education.

2. Educational Efforts:

a- Formal education:

Provide sex education at an early age, with properly defined curricula institutionalized in schools, so as to guarantee that they have a common content across all schools rather than depend on individual idiosyncrasies. The same idea should apply to drug education.

Ensure special and institutionalized training in sexual and reproductive health and family planning for all health-care providers, to prepare them to deal with teen, e.g. through schools of nursing.

Work towards reshaping the current family life education curriculum, so as to make it more relevant to the everyday concerns of teenagers, seeking to better translate information from the clinical to the practical.

Encourage innovation and creativity in the formulation of Information, Education and Communication programmes, e.g. through increased use of the medium of drama, popular music and cultural forms to dramatize crucial issues. Also, we may wish to take into account the inefficacy of too many speeches.

Provide education to parents from three angles: 1) prior to people becoming parents; 2) to build or strengthen parenting skills; 3) to ensure they understand the content of school progress directed at their children.

Promote the full involvement of men in family planning. Parents and schools should ensure that attitudes that are respectful of women and girls as equals are instilled in boys from the earliest possible age. Relevant programmes to reach boys, before they become sexually active, are urgently needed. Devise effective education programs for males, using a non-blaming mode.

b- Education through the media:

Strengthen regional collaboration on programme production, so as to raise the issue of teenage pregnancy in the Caribbean.

Put some pressure on the press media to make some prime time available for coverage of social issues.

Cover of presentations by feature speakers other than incumbent politicians.

c- Informal education:

Strengthen peer counselling programmes and ensure collaboration with other social agencies.

Promote abstinence as an option for contraception and provide guidance to

educators and family planing personnel to understand it appropriately.

3. Legal Efforts:

Ensure the widest and earliest possible access of all young people to secondary school education.

Urged countries to develop effective legislation, infrastructure, programmes and evaluation mechanics to protect minors from sexual abuse, incest and punitive measures for infractions. Programmes need to include counselling.

Institute foster programmes, provide sufficient resources and make adoption laws programmes for foster parents.

Institutionalizing population policies with reproductive, sexual health and family planning, where they do not exist.

CXC should be pressed to include sex education on the examen curriculum.

Introduce a National Education Act, mandating responsibility for sex education for NGOs, and lobby parliamentarians to ensure this.

Ensure that countries have mechanisms in place for pressing for the introduction of laws. Take a lead role in coordinating the implementation, monitoring, follow up and evaluation.

Encourage policies and programmes for the return of teen mothers to school, there is a need for better legislation regarding a compulsory school age, so that unwritten rules do not have as much weight as is the case now, deterring teen mothers from returning to school.

4. Programmes:

Urged governments, in collaboration with NGOs, to meet the special needs of

adolescents and to establish appropriate policies and programmes to respond to these needs.

Make contraceptives a lot more easily available to teenagers, without the need to work through a third party, whether it be a provider or a supermarket clerk.

Make special efforts to design programmes aimed at bonding fathers with children.

Rethink the current approaches to addressing sexuality and family planning, using a marketing approach.

Promote skill-training programmes, to provide support in job placement --largely an NGO responsibility.

Provide increased in-country support for the UTC.

Create social services for abandoned babies (special consideration requested by Guyana).

Introduce Teen Mothers Centers where possible, to facilitate continued education during the period of pregnancy and return to the school system after delivery, particularly with support for the teens in the early period following early child care.

5. Data Collection and Analysis:

Research on teen attitudes to pregnancy, taking into consideration cultural differences.

Institute research programmes to examine the root causes of problems faced by young men as well as the reasons for their higher incidence of drop-outs relative to that of girls.

International Meeting of Parliamentarians on Population and Social Development (IMPPSD)

COPENHAGEN STATEMENT

ON

POPULATION AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

4 - 5 March, 1995

Copenhagen, Denmark

COPENHAGEN STATEMENT
ON
POPULATION AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

We, the parliamentarians attending the International Meeting of Parliamentarians on Population and Social Development (IMPPSD), held in Copenhagen, Denmark, on 4 and 5 March 1995, in addressing ourselves to the interrelated issues of population and social development,

- Recognize that the World Summit for Social Development is an integral part of the development dialogue currently under way in the series of major international conferences either taking place or having taken place, including, inter alia, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the International Conference on Population and Development, and the Fourth World Conference on Women;

- Recognize further, in this regard, that population, sustained economic growth, social development, sustainable development, security and peace are interdependent and mutually reinforcing, as are efforts to slow down rapid population growth, eradicate poverty, protect the environment, create jobs and reduce unemployment, and promote social integration whereby all people, and in particular women, as well as people with disabilities, participate equally and fully in all spheres of social, cultural, economic and political life;

- Accept therefore the responsibility to support legislative initiatives, demonstrate political will, and help mobilize government and public support to address these interdependent and mutually reinforcing issues;

- Acknowledge that social development is primarily a national responsibility, one requiring individual and societal action as well as international commitment;

- Note with concern that poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, ethnic and other conflicts and social disintegration continue to afflict many countries and are disproportionately affecting women and children;

- Recognize that servicing of debt and lack of easy access to external markets by developing countries and by former socialist countries in transition are contributing to the persistence of poverty; and thus urge the international community to review their policies in this regard;

- Recognize further the importance of achieving sustainable agricultural production, including food self-sufficiency wherever appropriate;

- Acknowledge the need to create a social and economic environment that permits and promotes a more equitable access for all people to employment, income, food security, water and sanitation, resources, and social services;

- Acknowledge further that humankind is confronted with global issues such as, inter alia, international migration, the impact of the development process on the environment, and international drug trafficking, the root causes of which need to be addressed through international understanding and collaboration at all levels;

- Acknowledge also, in this regard, the need to promote universal access to education and to health-care services, including reproductive health-care and family planning services, and to promote equal partnership between men and women in the family, in the economy, and in society;

- Affirm the need to re-orient national budgets and national priorities to address the basic needs of people and to reduce inequities between and among them; affirm further that the 20/20 principle concerning social development is a useful concept in the fight against poverty and in development cooperation.

- Affirm also the unique and important role of parliamentarians in this respect and, correspondingly, the need to develop networks among parliamentarians at the national, regional and interregional levels, not only to create awareness and understanding of the interdependence of social and economic issues, but also to exchange experiences and to enhance and expand cooperation in addressing such issues;

- Emphasize, in this context, the importance of building up national capacity,

both governmental and non- governmental, to establish a people-centered framework for social development and to respond to the material and spiritual needs of all individuals, and in this regard, of promoting national and international cooperation, and in particular South-South cooperation;

- Emphasize further that empowerment of women and creation of easy and equal access for women to education, health, employment, political participation, assets and credit, etc., are fundamental in seeking a lasting solution to the interrelated issues of sustainable development, sustained economic growth, social development and population.

We therefore declare our firm commitment to implement the actions set forth in the Programme of Action once adopted at the World Summit for Social Development, particularly those related to the principles and objectives of the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development, and call upon parliamentarians everywhere to redouble their efforts to secure the necessary resources to implement the activities set forth in both programmes of action. In this regard, countries should strive to achieve the fulfillment of the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product (GNP) for overall Official Development Assistance, as soon as possible and are invited to examine further their priorities of distribution to achieve the maximum benefit to developing countries.

Taller Centroamericano

"La Nueva Decada de Población 1994-2004"

RECOMENDACIONES

Grupo Parlamentario Interamericano sobre Población y Desarrollo (GPI)

19 - 20 Mayo, 1995

Ciudad de Panamá, Panamá

ELIMINACIÓN DE LA VIOLENCIA CONTRA LA MUJER

CONTEXTO

La violencia doméstica se da en todo el mundo y sin distinción de raza, clase, religión, edad o cualquier otra condición, es una situación generalizada. La mayoría de los estudios coinciden en señalar que el origen de la violencia está en la desigualdad de condiciones entre hombres y mujeres en sociedades donde los hombres ocupan una posición de preeminencia y las mujeres están subordinadas a ellos.

La violencia contra la mujer constituye una violación a los derechos humanos y las libertades fundamentales y limita total o parcialmente a la mujer el reconocimiento, goce y ejercicio de sus derechos y libertades.

RECOMENDACIONES PARA QUE SE HAGAN ESFUERZOS DE:

PROMOCIÓN

- Buscar una discusión abierta con los sectores – laicos y religiosos – más conservadores de la sociedad, a fin de lograr un acercamiento que facilite su involucración en la defensa de los derechos de las mujeres;

- Alentar a los medios de comunicación a elaborar directrices adecuadas de difusión que contribuyan a erradicar la violencia en general y en contra de la mujer en particular a través de sus contenidos e imagines;

- Alentar la participación de los hombres y mujeres para la concientización y medidas para eliminar la violencia en general y la violencia contra la mujer en particular;

- Promover la discusión en grupos de hombres sobre lo que es la masculinidad, para reconceptualizarla desde una perspectiva de igualdad, respeto y no violencia;

- Difundir las leyes para lograr una cultura legislativa entre la población debido a

que muchas veces las mujeres desconocen las leyes que las protegen;

- Promover espacios para la discusión con funcionarios de alto nivel sobre la problemática de violencia contra la mujer;

- Promover el intercambio de ideas, experiencias y de ejecución de programas entre los parlamentarios de diferentes países;

EDUCACIÓN

- Impartir educación sexual en las escuelas desde pre-escolar hasta la universidad. En cuanto a la educación sexual se debe enfatizar que tanto hombres como mujeres tienen derecho a gozar de una sexualidad sana y saludable. Ni el hombre ni la mujer deben pensar que las mujeres son objetos sexuales, estos conceptos deberían aclararse en los procesos educativos;

- Introducir en los planes de estudio escolar el concepto de igualdad de deberes y derechos de ambos sexos para eliminar los estereotipos de los roles sexuales. En la educación no formal diseñar programas educativos apropiados para contrarrestar prejuicios y costumbres que se basan en la premisa de la inferioridad de cualquiera de los géneros y que legitima y exacerba la violencia contra la mujer;

- Promover la democracia doméstica como núcleo generador del cambio tanto del rol del hombre como de la mujer;

- Concientizar a la mujer de los daños de la violencia, y crear los mecanismos para que pueda denunciar la violencia de la que es víctima ofreciendo acceso a programas de rehabilitación y capacitación que le permitan participar plenamente en la vida pública, privada y social;

- Reformar los planes de estudio de las escuelas de policía y fomentar la educación y capacitación del personal en la administración de policía y justicia, así como de todo el personal a cuyo cargo esté la aplicación de las políticas y programas de prevención, sanción y eliminación de violencia contra la mujer.

LEGALES

- Incrementar el presupuesto de salud para que incluya salud sexual y reproductiva y promoción de la igualdad de los géneros;

- Adecuar las legislaciones nacionales a la Convención contra todas las Formas de Discriminación contra la Mujer, de manera que las leyes nacionales promuevan la igualdad de sexo y la erradicación de la violencia contra la mujer;

- Adecuar las instituciones y destinar mayores recursos a fin de que se puedan hacer efectictivas las leyes y las políticas en favor de la mujer;

- Articular esfuerzos entre las instituciones del estado y la sociedad civil con el objetivo de impulsar una política coherente en contra de la violencia contra la mujer;

- Aprobar una ley sobre Violencia Doméstica/Convenios sobre Violencia en aquellos países que aún no lo han hecho. Las leyes no deberían limitarse a la violencia doméstica sino también extenderse al tratamiento del acoso sexual en el contexto laboral;

- Codificar y especificar la violencia contra la mujer en el libro de diagnósticos de enfermedades de la Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS)

- Hacer esfuerzos para que los tribunales de familia se encarguen de tratar el problema de la violencia doméstica;

- Tomar todas las medidas apropiadas para garantizar el cumplimiento de las leyes por parte de los gobiernos y dependencias estatales, así como de los recursos para implementar dichas leyes y políticas. Los organismos de cooperación deben apoyar la canalización de recursos para este fin, y los gobiernos priorizar estar áreas de inversión social;

- Promover las leyes que contengan medidas preventivas y de rehabilitación de las víctimas;

- Hacer esfuerzos por promulgar, reglamentar y hacer cumplir las leyes nacionales y las convenciones internacionales. Se insta a los países a que firmen, ratifiquen y apliquen todos los acuerdos existentes que promuevan los derechos de la mujer. Aquellos países que aún no lo han hecho deberían subscribir la Convención Interamericana para Prevenir, Sancionar y Erradicar la Violencia contra la Mujer "Convención de Bêlem do Para".

PROGRAMAS Y POLÍTICAS

- Alentar la discusión conjunta entre hombres y mujeres del problema de violencia doméstica, poniendo mucho énfasis en la incorporación de los hombres por ser en la mayoría de los casos los agresores;

- Incluir la perspectiva de género en todos los programas y políticas que se elaboren;

- Establecer procedimientos legales justos y eficaces para la mujer que haya sido sometida a violencia, que incluyan entre otros medidas de protección, juicio oportuno y el acceso efectivo a tales procedimientos, priorizando las zonas de pobreza;

- Promover una política institucionalizada de consulta con las ONGs de mujeres, pues en estos temas los grandes profesionales están en las ONGs y no en el gobierno. Al mismo tiempo alentar a las ONGs que apoyen a las propuestas de los gobiernos;

- Hacer esfuerzos, tanto los gobiernos como ONGs y colectivos, para llegar a los sectores más desposeídos de la sociedad;

RECOLECCIÓN Y ANÁLISIS DE DATOS

- Garantizar las investigaciones sobre la violencia en contra de mujeres y la recopilación de estadística pertinente sobre las causas, consecuencias y frecuencia de la violencia contra la mujer, y de formular y aplicar los cambios que sean

necesarios. También se deben incluir estadísticas sobre la violencia contra el hombre.

EMBARAZO EN ADOLESCENTES

CONTEXTO

El embarazo en la adolescencia acarrea riesgos y los hijos de las madres jóvenes tienen niveles más elevados de morbilidad y mortalidad. El embarazo a edad temprana es un impedimento para mejorar la condición educativa, económica y social de las mujeres. Sobre todo en el caso de las jóvenes, el matrimonio y la maternidad a edad temprana limitan en alto grado las oportunidades de educación y empleo, y es probable que produzcan efectos negativos a largo plazo sobre la calidad de vida de ellas mismas y de sus hijos.

Hasta ahora los servicios de salud reproductiva existentes han descuidado en gran parte las necesidades de los adolescentes como grupo. La respuesta de las sociedades a las crecientes necesidades de salud reproductiva y sexual de los adolescentes debería basarse en información que los ayude a alcanzar el grado de madurez necesario para adoptar decisiones en forma responsable. En particular deberían facilitarse a los adolescentes información y servicios que les ayuden a comprender su sexualidad y a protegerse contra los embarazos no deseados y las Enfermedades de Transmisión Sexual (ETS).

RECOMENDACIONES PARA QUE SE HAGAN ESFUERZOS DE:

PROMOCIÓN

- Promover y fortalecer la comunicación, especialmente en la familia a fin de mejorar la interacción de los padres con sus hijos y permitirles cumplir mejor sus deberes educativos y afectivos;

- Buscar y generar mecanismos para que la sociedad en su conjunto se comprometa

en la búsqueda de soluciones a los problemas que afectan a los adolescentes;

- Promover un cambio de actitud, en los sectores laicos y religiosos más conservadores de la sociedad, a fin de que estos tomen conciencia de la importancia del embarazo en adolescentes y de las formas de evitar problemas graves de salud pública como son toda la gama de ETS;

- Aumentar y maximizar los espacios y recursos físicos e institucionales existentes para que los jóvenes puedan discutir sus necesidades, evaluar los programas dirigidos a ellos, y generar propuestas (ej. Organizar un congreso anual de jóvenes). Asimismo promover la creación de grupos juveniles de presión propositivos para que se integren al debate nacional de los temas que les atañen;

- Motivar a los adultos para que puedan crecer, para que permitan la bienvenida a nuevas ideas, entiendan y comprendan a los adolescentes reconociendo que los jóvenes comienzan a asumir "sus vidas" y las respuestas de los adultos deben satisfacer sus necesidades.

- Concientizar a la sociedad para evitar el rechazo a la adolescente embarazada para que no sea estigmatizada y el aborto no se constituya en el último recurso;

- Educar a los medios de comunicación social para que entiendan que el embarazo en adolescentes es un problema vital y comprometerlos en la difusión de información correcta sobre los temas de salud reproductiva y sexual;

- Incluir en la plataforma de los partidos políticos la problemática de la juventud.

EDUCACIÓN

- Actualizar el concepto de familia dentro de los estudiantes de secundaria y promover el concepto de paternidad responsable;

- Promover la educación del adolescente tanto a través del sistema formal como del informal de educación, garantizando educación sexual y de género en los planes de estudio escolar desde el ciclo primario;

- Revisar los contenidos de los planes de estudio en los campos de salud sexual y reproductiva, y atención de la adolescente embarazada en todas las carreras profesionales de salud (ej. Medicina, enfermería, etc.);

- Capacitar a todas las personas que están en condiciones de dar orientación a los adolescentes en relación con su comportamiento sexual, en particular los padres y las familias, así como las comunidades. Las instituciones religiosas, las escuelas y los grupos de la misma edad e intereses;

- Capacitar a los docentes y al personal de salud para que puedan trabajar con los jóvenes de manera adecuada. Pensar en la capacitación de manera continua y en términos de grupo y no solamente a personas, de lo contrario con la rotación de personal que existe en las dependencias públicas estamos desperdiciando recursos y tiempo;

- Capacitar a las/los jóvenes en la elaboración de propuestas cuya finalidad sea mejorar la salud reproductiva y sexual con enfoque de género, que puedan ser consideradas por las/los legisladores;

LEGALES

- Presionar para que los gobiernos inviertan porcentajes cada vez mayores en educación y salud, así como en programas de recreación y tiempo libre;

- Apoyar a las adolescentes embarazadas y fomentar que estas permanezcan en el sistema escolar creando los mecanismos legales que lo garanticen (ej. Panamá Código de la Familia, art. 491);

- Eliminar, cuando existan, barreras legales y sociales que impiden el suministro de información y servicios de salud reproductiva y sexual para adolescentes. Asimismo revisar e introducir reformas cuando las leyes necesiten ser actualizadas a la realidad de los adolescentes;

- Fiscalizar el cumplimiento de las leyes en lo que respecta a los adolescentes. También divulgar las leyes y realizar el seguimiento correspondiente para conocer su impacto.

POLÍTICAS Y PROGRAMAS

- Incorporar a los jóvenes desde el momento de la formulación de los proyectos para determinar sus necesidades sentidas, sus imágenes de salud y sus aspiraciones en materia de desarrollo personal y social. Su incorporación en distintas etapas del diseño y la aplicación de programas, tanto en formal individual como de grupo permitirá optimizar el uso de recursos;

- Apoyar los programas y servicios de salud reproductiva y sexual garantizando la provisión de servicios de asesoría para que los adolescentes puedan tomar decisiones respecto a su propia situación. Fomentar la creación de centros de promoción y atención para los adolescentes y jóvenes embarazadas donde no existen;

- Garantizar que los programas de servicios de salud para los adolescentes provean un servicio integral de calidad y con calidez por parte de trabajadores de salud capacitados. Integral significa que en la promoción y prevención de la salud es fundamental una acción combinada con otros sectores de política publica que tiendan a desarrollar al joven en salud, cultura, empleo y actividades recreativas;

- Promover estrategias atractivas para que el mensaje llegue a los adolescentes, asumiendo que la cuestión de salud reproductiva y sexual para los adolescentes no es fácil entre otras cosas debido a que estos tienen sus propios códigos y presiones de grupo;

- Abordar el tema del aborto como un problema importante de salud pública. También ocuparse de los efectos que tienen los abortos realizados en condiciones no adecuadas y proporcionar en todos los casos un trato humanitario y orientación a las mujeres que han recurrido a un aborto. Estos programas deberían incluir un nivel familiar, escolar y social;

RECOLECCION Y ANÁLISIS DE DATOS

- Realizar investigaciones para tratar de identificar las causas de los embarazos en adolescentes. Dar especial atención a los casos de abuso sexual e incesto;

- Alentar el intercambio de experiencias e información sobre el tema ya que existe poca información al respecto;

- Basar las iniciativas de cualquier proyecto en resultados de investigaciones científicas que se lleven a cabo con adolescentes y que la divulgación de estos trabajos se haga a través de grupos de enlace que pudieran surgir en esta reunión comprometiéndonos y responsabilizándonos en nuestras acciones en este campo.

ENFERMEDADES DE TRASMISION SEXUAL Y PREVENCIÓN DEL VIH

CONTEXTO

La incidencia mundial de las Enfermedades de Transmisión Sexual (ETS) es alta y sigue aumentando. Las desventajas económicas y sociales de la mujer la hacen especialmente vulnerable a las ETS, incluido el VIH; una muestra de ello es, su vulnerabilidad ante el comportamiento sexual imprudente de parejas. Las estrategias que se diseñen para atacar el problema deben incorporar la perspectiva de género dentro del marco conceptual de salud sexual y reproductiva, en virtud de que las mujeres en edad reproductiva son las poblaciones más vulnerables y afectadas; al mismo tiempo la transmisión hetereosexual del VIH ha cambiado el enfoque inicial de limitarlo a "grupos de alto riesgo" para extenderlo a la población en general.

RECOMENDACIONES PARA QUE SE HAGAN ESFUERZOS DE:

PROMOCIÓN

- Interesar a los gobiernos a que destinen mayores recursos para prevención y campañas masivas para educación;

- Crear campañas de información, educación y comunicaciones masivas o intensificarlas en aquellos países en que ya existen, encaminadas a aumentar la

conciencia sobre el tema;

- Movilizar a todos los sectores de la sociedad para controlar la pandemia del SIDA, incluidas las organizaciones no gubernamentales, las organizaciones comunitarias, los líderes religiosos, el sector privado, los medios de difusión, las escuelas y los servicios de salud;

- Organizar grupos juveniles y apoyar a los existentes, para que se organicen, discutan el tema y se vuelvan multiplicadores de la información. También es necesario trabajar con líderes comunitarios que multipliquen la información y elaboren estrategias que respondan a las percepciones locales de la prioridad que debe darse a las cuestiones sanitarias relacionadas con la difusión del VIH y las enfermedades de transmisión sexual;

- Crear foros de debate para generar conciencia sobre las ETS y VIH, priorizando los grupos con capacidad de toma de decisión (ej. Autoridades y medios masivos de comunicación). Los legisladores deberían también convocar a la juventud y escuchar sus planteamientos;

- Proponer políticas para evitar el "amarillismo" en los medios de comunicación, y de este modo terminar la difusión de informaciones erróneas y sensacionalistas;

- Promover el debate de las ETS y VIH a nivel parlamentario;

EDUCACIÓN

- Promover la educación sexual en el ámbito formal e informal (ej. Nivel militar y comunitario) de la educación y a todos los niveles, comenzando por el preescolar, con personal capacitado para esta tarea. Los programas deberían ser creativos para llegar a los grupos más vulnerables en relación a las ETS, por ejemplo utilizar el teatro;

- Proporcionar a la población información, educación y orientación para la promoción de comportamientos sexuales responsables y sin riesgos, incluida la abstinencia voluntaria y el uso de preservativos. Estos servicios deberían estar

incluídos en todos los servicios de atención de salud reproductiva;

- Introducir información sobre ETS y SIDA en los planes de estudio escolares;

LEGALES

- Garantizar que las normas legales respeten los derechos humanos; respeto a la dignidad de los afectados, derecho a la igualdad, confidencialidad, no discriminación y no estigmatización.

- Elaborar políticas y directrices para eliminar la discriminación laboral contra las personas infectadas por el VIH y proteger sus derechos y los de su familia;

- Hacer esfuerzos legislativos para que las leyes sean preventivas y educativas y no penalizadoras;

- Proponer que los casos de ETS y SIDA sean de notificación anónima-obligatoria, con sanciones para quienes no lo hagan, ya que desde el punto de vista epidemológico esto es indispensable para la salud publica. Así mismo se debe garantizar que la notificación sea confidencial, garantizando los derechos humanos;

- Garantizar que los fondos que se destinan a las ETS y prevención del VIH se utilicen con eficiencia debido a que estos son cada vez más escasos;

- Hacer esfuerzos para legislar en temas de migración, y reglamentar el turismo.

PROGRAMAS Y POLÍTICAS

Las políticas de acción inmediata tienen que ser integrales, pero definidas en objetivos inmediatos, para lograr los resultados que se quieren. A mediano plazo es necesario un replanteamiento de las políticas sociales básicas;

- Elaborar normas de prevención y control de las ETS y VIH, cada país acorde a su

propia realidad, en base a una consulta con todas las organizaciones locales y regionales que trabajen en el tema;

- Promover el concepto de salud preventiva integral para la elaboración de programas y proyectos sobre ETS y prevención del VIH, o de salud sexual vinculada al problema de la salud en general;

- Promover la participación de los jóvenes en el diseño de los programas sobre ETS y prevención del VIH;

- Garantizar que el sistema de salud cuente con los recursos para darle atención al problema de manera integral, incluyendo la consejería y manejo psicológico;

- Elaborar programas especiales para suministrar atención y prestar el apoyo necesario a los niños afectados por el SIDA, buscando que se los trate como a otro enfermo en fase terminal, y para aconsejar a sus familias y a las personas de su círculo íntimo;

- Promover las actividades de las ONGs, debido entre otras cosas a que estas ofrecen un 30% de los servicio para ETS y prevención del VIH:

RECOLECCIÓN Y ANALISIS DE DATOS

- Realizar investigaciones sobre la situación de las ETS y necesidades de la comunidad, y producir materiales bibliográficos adecuados al público beneficiario;

- Publicar estadísticas fidedignas en relación a las ETS y VIH.

Taller para parlamentarios de la Región Andina

Paraguay y Chile

"La Nueva Década de Población 1994-2004"

RECOMENDACIONES

Grupo Parlamentario Inter-Americano

Sobre Poblacion y Desarrollo (GPI)

20 - 21 Agosto, 1995

Lima, Perú

I Antecedentes y Aspectos destacados

Alrededor de 70 parlamentarios y representantes de organizaciones no-gubernamentales participaron en el taller "La Nueva Década de Población 1994-2004" celebrado en la ciudad de Lima Perú, los días 11-12 de agosto de 1995. El taller fue organizado por el Grupo Parlamentario Interamericano sobre Población y Desarrollo (GPI) con los auspicios del Fondo de Población de las Naciones Unidas (FNUAP), el Instituto Peruano de Paternidad Responsable (INPPARES) y la Asociación Multidisciplinaria de Educación en Población (AMIDEP).

En la sesión inaugural, el día 11 de agosto pronunciaron discursos el Senador Dr. Javier Torres-Goitia, Presidente del GPI, el Dr. Pedro Pablo Villanueva Director de País para Perú, Paraguay y Chile del FNUAP, la Dra. Martha Chavez de Ocampo, Presidenta del Congreso Nacional de Perú y el Excelentísimo Sr. Presidente del Perú Ing. Alberto Fujimori quien realizó la apertura oficial del taller.

Entre los participantes se encontraban parlamentarios, periodistas y representantes de organizaciones no-gubernamentales de los siguientes países: Chile, Argentina, Paraguay, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela y Perú. En su calidad de invitados especiales participaron un parlamentario de Japón y una parlamentaria de Suecia.

En el taller se discutieron los siguientes temas: eliminación de la violencia en contra de la mujer, mortalidad materna y embarazo adolescente. Cada sesión consistió en una o dos presentaciones, seguida por un comentarista y un debate plenario. Luego los participantes se dividieron en grupos y sugirieron recomendaciones.

Sesión I

ELIMINACIÓN DE LA VIOLENCIA CONTRA LA MUJER

La expositora de la sesión de Eliminación de la Violencia en contra de la Mujer fue la Dra. María Isabel Plata, Directora Ejecutiva de la Asociación Pro-Bienestar de la Familia Colombiana (PROFAMILIA). Comentaron la exposición la Congresista de Perú Lourdes Flores Nano y la Senadora de Colombia Piedad Córdoba de Castro.

Después de la presentación los participantes se dividieron en grupos de trabajo para proponer acciones que los parlamentarios puedan implementar en sus respectivos países. Todos los grupos sostuvieron que el enfoque al tema de la Eliminación de la Violencia Contra la Mujer debe ser integral, considerando la violencia en los distintos ámbitos: violencia intrafamiliar, violencia en el trabajo, violencia en la comunidad. Así mismo reconocieron que el origen y mantenimiento del problema de la violencia es multifactorial. Los grupos hicieron las siguientes recomendaciones

1. PROMOCIÓN Y CONCIENTIZACION

Promover la investigación, recoger datos y elaborar estadísticas a nivel del parlamento, incentivando la creación de recursos para estos efectos incluyendo aportes externos, y la potenciación de modalidades de investigación existentes por ejemplo las encuestas de hogares.

Divulgar las leyes existentes, informar sobre el contenido de las mismas como programas de concientización y educación;

Enfocar el problema de la violencia contra la mujer como un problema nacional;

Fortalecer el rol de los municipios, empresarios, sindicatos, y asociaciones de vecinos en el cumplimiento de instancias de apoyo para la defensa de los derechos de la mujer;

2. EDUCACIÓN

Adoptar todas las medidas necesarias, especialmente en el ámbito de la educación, para modificar los estereotipos de conducta sociales y culturales del hombre y la mujer y eliminar los prejuicios basadas en la idea de la inferioridad o superioridad de uno de los sexos y en funciones esteretipadas asignadas al hombre y a la mujer;

Incentivar nuevos valores sociales y dar importancia a la educación ética y sexual;

Incorporar una perspectiva de género en las comisiones de derechos humanos de los

Congresos, partidos políticos, etc.

Incorporar el tema de derechos de la mujer en el marco de los derechos humanos en el ámbito de educación que conduzcan a revalorizar a la mujer y al reconocimiento y apoyo al ejercicio de sus derechos;

Capacitar al personal de policía, jueces, etc que atienden a las víctimas de la violencia para garantizar una atención especializada, trato humano y apoyo psicológico;

3. ASPECTOS LEGALES

Considerar la posibilidad de establecer iniciativas -a través de la revisión de las leyes de partidos políticos, de sufragio, de cuotas de participación en la toma de decisiones, etc- que permitan a las mujeres la igualdad de oportunidades política ;

Urgir a los gobiernos a que firmen y ratifiquen la convención de "BELEM DO PARA";

Exigir a los gobiernos el cumplimiento de los acuerdos internacionales suscritos relacionados con la violencia contra la mujer;

Asignar los recursos suficientes en el presupuesto del Estado y movilizar recursos locales para actividades y para la implementación de programas relacionados con la eliminación de la violencia contra la mujer;

Dar seguimiento a las leyes- en las comisiones de la mujer, derechos humanos y social del Congreso-, y evaluar su aplicabilidad periódicamente a fin de asegurar su eficacia para eliminar la violencia contra la mujer;

Revisar las leyes pertinentes, reformar las instituciones- tratando de lograr mayores niveles de eficiencia- y promover las normas y prácticas que eliminen la discriminación contra la mujer;

Introducir jurisdicción donde prime el concepto de equidad;

Integrar las jurisdicciones unitarias de la familia, mujer y menor con un enfoque integral;

4. POLÍTICAS Y PROGRAMAS

Hacer esfuerzos para realizar acciones coordinadas con el poder ejecutivo para la necesaria articulación entre las políticas públicas y la actividad legislativa;

Establecer servicios de apoyo y asistencia para auxiliar a las niñas y mujeres víctimas de la violencia y prestarles servicios médicos, psicológicos y de asesoramiento, así como asesoramiento letrado, cuando sea necesario;

Generar espacios de participación para la ampliación del ámbito de las ONG de los sectores urbanos a los rurales, y apoyar las iniciativas de las ONG de mujeres encaminadas a despertar conciencia sobre el problema de la violencia contra la mujer y contribuir a su eliminación;

Incorporar mujeres en las estaciones de policía a fin de permitir una mayor confraternidad con la mujer que solicita asistencia;

Diseñar políticas especificas para la prevención de los problemas de violencia derivados de acciones de guerra interna.

Revisar y aplicar políticas nacionales que apoyen los mecanismos nacionales de ahorro, crédito y préstamo para la mujer;

Garantizar un tratamiento intersectorial al problema de la violencia contra la mujer;

Sesión II

MORTALIDAD MATERNA

El expositor de la sesión de mortalidad materna fue el Senador Dr. Javier Torres-Goitia, de Bolivia. Comentaron su exposición la Diputada Chilena Dra. Fanny Pollarolo Villa y la Congresista Luz Salgado del Perú.

El Senador Torres-Goitia enfatizó la realidad de la región andina y señaló que las complicaciones relacionadas con el embarazo y el parto figuran entre las principales causas de mortalidad de las mujeres en edad de procrear en muchas partes del mundo en desarrollo.

En la sub-región Andina una proporción significativa de los abortos son inducidos por las propias mujeres o se efectúan en malas condiciones , y son la causa de un gran porcentaje de los fallecimientos de las madres o de lesiones permanentes en las mujeres afectadas. El fallecimiento de la madre puede tener consecuencias muy graves para la familia, dado el papel decisivo que desempeña la mujer en la salud y el bienestar de sus hijos. El fallecimiento de la madre hace que aumenten enormemente los riesgos para la supervivencia de los hijos pequeños, especialmente si la familia no está en condiciones de encontrar a otra persona que asuma el papel materno.

Los parlamentarios divididos en grupos sugirieron las siguientes acciones para garantizar la salud de la mujer y la maternidad sin riesgo:

1. PROMOCIÓN, CONCIENTIZACION

Existen muchas trabas para la promoción y concientización de los temas de salud de la mujer, en especial en lo referente a mortalidad materna. Los obstáculos pueden ser de carácter legal, burocrático, y cultural y se ven agravados por la oposición que ponen algunos sectores conservadores. Las siguientes acciones podrían contribuir a disminuir las tasas de mortalidad materna:

Asegurar la difusión de información apropiada para garantizar el acceso a la salud reproductiva integral y sobre planificación familiar sobre todo en los sectores mas

pobres de la población. Se sugirió la puesta en marcha de campañas informativas y educativas en los medios de comunicación, teniendo en cuenta los aspectos culturales de los diferentes sectores de la población;

Realizar actividades para promover la continuidad y consistencia de las políticas estatales de salud y planificación familiar;

Crear conciencia sobre las diferencias entre salud sexual y reproductiva, y reforzar la enseñanza de valores en la educación sexual incluyendo la autoestima y el respeto a la decisión del otro miembro de la pareja;

Impulsar la investigación que se ocupe de los efectos de los pesticidas sobre el la mujer embarazada y el feto, debido a que es este un tema muy poco estudiado;

Fortalecer los nexos entre las/os parlamentarias/os y el movimiento de mujeres y;

2. EDUCACIÓN

Destinar mayores recursos a la educación, para reducir el analfabetismo. Se propuso como meta mínima eliminar el analfabetismo para el año 2015;

Realizar programas especiales de educación sexual y reproductiva en las lenguas nativas de los respectivos países;

Implementar programas de educación sexual para jóvenes que incluyan la discusión de los riesgos del embarazo en adolescentes;

Formar a los funcionarios públicos regionales en políticas que incorporen una perspectiva de género;

Enfatizar la prevención de la mortalidad materna y del aborto, mediante la educación sexual responsable, basada en valores;

3. ASPECTOS LEGALES

Garantizar el cumplimiento y la continuidad de las políticas relacionadas con la salud de la mujer mediante asignaciones presupuestarias adecuadas;

Legislar sobre el aborto terapéutico;

Urgir a los gobiernos a que ratifiquen y cumplan todos los compromisos internacionales relacionados con la salud de la mujer;

Promulgar allí donde se considere oportuno un ley de población y desarrollo;

Crear en el parlamento- donde no existan - comisiones especializadas permanentes y estatutarias sobre mujer y familia-, que permitan profundizar estos temas, elaborar proyectos de leyes e impulsar su aplicación;

Tratar de que la legislación avance al mismo ritmo de la ingeniería genética, con el fin de prevenir severos problemas;

Revisar la legislación y modificar toda aquella que restrinja o subordine la voluntad de la mujer respecto de su capacidad de disponer de si misma en materia de salud reproductiva;

Legislar sobre patologias emergentes en relación a la mujer y el ámbito laboral;

4. POLÍTICAS Y PROGRAMAS

Enfocar la salud reproductiva de la mujer desde una perspectiva integral y de igual manera aplicar las políticas públicas de manera intersectorial, para lograr mejores resultados en los objetivos propuestos;

Fortalecer la red de atención primaria de la salud con el fin de garantizar el acceso universal a servicios de salud de calidad para niñas y mujeres, incluyendo la atención de la salud reproductiva;

Garantizar calidad técnica y humana en los servicios de salud, involucrando otros aspectos respecto al embarazo, como la nutrición, la protección de factores contaminantes, etc.

Garantizar el libre acceso al tipo de planificación familiar que la persona prefiera de acuerdo a sus necesidades y creencias con responsabilidad, e incorporar al hombre en los programas de salud reproductiva y en el cuidado de los hijos;

Adoptar medidas para garantizar que se reconozcan y respeten los derechos reproductivos y sexuales de las mujeres;

Abrir la discusión en torno al tema aborto con la participación de la mujer desde la perspectiva de la defensa a los derechos reproductivos;

Fomentar la liberalización del aborto en casos específicos de condiciones médicas riesgosas y de violación;

Descentralizar los servicios de educación a los adolescentes, así como de los servicios de salud.

Sesión III

Embarazo en Adolescentes

Las Lic. María Ragus de la Universidad Católica de Lima, Perú y la Lic. Angela Sebastini, Directora del Programa de Adolescentes de INPPARES fueron las expositoras de la sesión de Embarazo en Adolescentes. Las exposiciones fueron comentadas por la Diputada Elisa Abascal Reyes de Suecia y el joven Omar Tejada Promotor Voluntario del Grupo Juvenil Futuro, dependiente de INPPARES.

Los grupos de trabajo efectuaron una evaluación sumaria de la situación del embarazo adolescente en los países del área andina.

En Colombia, al igual que en los demás países del area andina hay un alarmante aumento en el embarazo de adolescentes, sobretodo en los sectores mas pobres de la

población. La Ley General de Educación en el país implemento la enseñanza obligatoria de la educación sexual en todos los niveles de la educación primaria y secundaria, actualmente se piensa presentar un proyecto de ley sobre salud reproductiva y derechos sexuales.

En el Perú, el embarazo precoz se da principalmente en sectores deprimidos y zonas rurales. Una de las trabas para aumentar la educación sexual y en población ha sido el estancamiento de la iniciativa de la Ley de Educación. Así mismo, hay oposición de la iglesia, de sectores políticos conservadores y de asociaciones de padres de familia que no están de acuerdo con que se imparta educación sexual en el sistema escolar.

En Paraguay, los indicadores son similares al resto de países latinos. Existen programas de educación y población con un contenido muy descriptivo y poco liberador. Sin embargo, como en Colombia, se cuestiona la falta de formación de los profesores que enseñan sobre sexualidad. Es valioso que la prensa trata de manera muy abierta los temas sobre sexualidad, pero de otro lado continúa la oposición de los padres. El Parlamento de Paraguay estudia la Ley General de Educación, que contempla la obligación del estado de proporcionar servicios de salud reproductiva.

En Venezuela, dada la problemática del embarazo precoz, se creó una comisión especializada para tratar y atender el tema, en el area también trabaja el Ministerio de la Familia. Se ventiló el importante tema de la prostitución infantil y juvenil, no considerado todavía.

En Chile se destacó el aumento de los hijos ilegítimos. A pesar de la fuerte oposición de la iglesia, se ha avanzado un poco en el tema de educación sexual en un ambiente de concertación. La oposición es fuerte y los maestros y los jóvenes no encuentran el apoyo oficial para tratar estos temas ni para informar sobre educación sexual y salud reproductiva. Persiste la preocupación sobre la forma de abordar el problema del aborto, desde una perspectiva ética y sana al mismo tiempo. Las ONG, las instituciones privadas y los medios de comunicación son las únicas instancias que en cierta medida pueden trabajar en el tema.

Los grupos coincidieron en destacar que los países Andinos muestran altas tasas de embarazo adolescente las cuales van en aumento sobretodo en los sectores más pobres y de las zonas rurales de la población. Igualmente en los países del área andina hay

dificultad para impartir educación sexual por la oposición de la iglesia y demás sectores conservadores que estancan el avance de la educación sexual.

Hay que agregar el hecho que la mayor parte de los jóvenes de la región tienen relaciones coitales sin protección, si bien hay conocimiento sobre los métodos, existen muchos mitos en relación al uso de los mismos.

Además se debe agregar que en muchos países de la región se están dando experiencias de sistematización para el trabajo con adolescentes y jóvenes, existiendo redes y organizaciones juveniles que están desarrollando labores en este campo, por lo que se requiere una labor mas estrecha entre los parlamentarios y estas organizaciones.

Los grupos procedieron a discutir acciones concretas que se podrían implementar en los respectivos países.

A. PROMOCION \ CONCIENTIZACION

Diseñar campañas preventivas y promocionales orientadas a la juventud. Las campañas deben ser motivadoras utilizando los medios masivos (novelas, canciones, lemas, etc.). Sería también conveniente aprovechar los materiales, programas ,y metodologías que hayan demostrado su efectividad;

Promover campañas de comunicación que sirvan de elemento de unión entre los diferentes sectores de la sociedad y puedan contribuir en gran medida en la concientización respecto al tema;

Promover acciones para que los parlamentarios un grupo consultor que les permita estar informados sobre temas de salud reproductiva y sexual, en especial de la problemática del adolescente facilitando de esta manera la toma de decisiones;

Divulgar los derechos sexuales y reproductivos a fin de que la mujer se sienta con el derecho a decidir, como y cuando quedar embarazada, y tener toda la información para poder ejercer su derecho en forma responsable y protegiendo su salud;

Fomentar la realización de reuniones entre parlamentarios y jóvenes para conocer

directamente las necesidades de estos últimos. Desarrollar una relación dinámica con ellos y con los educadores para el seguimiento de programas;

Fomentar la participación de los partidos políticos en el compromiso con las políticas de juventud y de género;

Garantizar en las actividades de promoción la participación de los medios de comunicación masivos, incluyendo mecanismos no convencionales y de contracultura;

Insistir en que los medios de comunicación no transmitan contenidos discriminatorios hacia la mujer;

B. EDUCACION

Impartir una educación sexual integral, dentro de una perspectiva liberadora, pero también responsable, en la cual se haga énfasis sobre la formación de valores como la autoestima, el respeto a la dignidad, la igualdad, etc. Asimismo dar seguimiento a las iniciativas existentes de educación sexual. La educación debe estar unida a otras actividades de carácter cultural, social, y deportivo, etc. debido a que los jóvenes necesitan oportunidades recreativas y foros para debatir cuestiones tales como sexualidad y planificación familiar así como la capacitación vocacional y las alternativas de producción de ingresos;

Promover procesos de reforma educativa incorporando programas de educación sexual con contenidos y metodologias muy precisos;

Incluir programas de educación sexual en los planes de estudio del sistema formal de enseñanza desde el inicio, y no solo en el nivel secundario, ya que esta demostrado que una educación temprana puede contribuir a una actividad sexual responsable;

Realizar esfuerzos para mejorar la formación de los maestros encargados de impartir la educación sexual. Los trabajos realizados con educadores demuestran que hay conocimiento, pero fallan las actitudes frente al problema de la sexualidad de adolescentes. El énfasis debería ponerse en el cambio de actitudes y comportamiento y no solo de conocimientos.

Adecuar los programas educativos a las zonas urbanas o rurales evaluando la necesidad de que se use el lenguaje de la comunidad y utilizando los medios que permitan alcanzar a un mayor número de personas por ejemplo la radio;

Estimular a que los jóvenes permanezcan en las escuelas debido a que la deserción escolar influye en la falta de educación sexual, y diseñar estrategias para tener acceso a los desertores del sistema educativo formal para que ellos también reciban educación sexual;

Diseñar programas de educación en población, o cuando estos existan diseñarlos o adaptarlos a las nuevas realidades;

Diseñar estrategias apropiadas para trabajar con sectores conservadores y ver la forma de conseguir transformarlos en aliados;

Transmitir el valor de la maternidad a los niños y jóvenes como una opción y no como una obligación o definición de ser mujer;

Insistir en el establecimiento de una especialización interdisciplinaria que permita trabajar con adolescentes y jóvenes de manera integral;

C. ASPECTOS LEGALES

Contribuir aprobando y exigiendo presupuestos para atender los programas de educación sexual y servicios para adolescentes. Igualmente, contribuir en la fiscalización del cumplimiento de las metas fijadas por los gobiernos en estas areas de interés;

Imponer sanciones a fin de eliminar la discriminación contra madres solteras y contra las mujeres en general y garantizar la igualdad de derechos contemplada en las constituciones nacionales;

Legislar acerca del derecho tanto de las adolescentes embarazadas, como de las que tienen hijos a continuar sus estudios;.

Crear una comisión investigadora para vigilar la violación de los derechos de la

mujer;

Dar seguimiento desde los Congresos a las políticas públicas relacionadas al tema definidas a través de leyes;

Crear comisiones especiales para integrar las políticas dirigidas a los niños y adolescentes, creando un sistema que coordine las acciones;

D. POLÍTICAS Y PROGRAMAS

Adecuar las políticas y programas de los gobiernos en el marco de las recomendaciones aprobadas en El Cairo en la Conferencia Internacional de Población y Desarrollo, garantizando entre otras cosas la equidad de género en todos los análisis y decisiones;

Garantizar que los jóvenes intervengan directamente en el diseño de programas de salud sexual y reproductiva. Es fundamental aprovechar las iniciativas de los propios jóvenes, incluso su cuestionamiento a lo constituido.

Favorecer la participación de las organizaciones juveniles y/o Consejos de la Juventud.

Apoyar a centros de estudio, redes de profesionales y de organizaciones para el diseño, ejecución y evaluación de los programas dirigidos a la población adolescente;

Intercambiar información sobre trabajos y experiencias existentes en el tema de embarazo adolescente entre diferentes países;

Potenciar el impacto y la acción de las ONG a través de la asignación de apoyo financiero por parte de los parlamentos;

Manejar el tema con grupos interdisciplinarios y multisectoriales que permitan una visión integral;

Crear programas de salud adolescente- para hombres y mujeres- a nivel de los Ministerios de Salud de los países;

Buscar formas de apoyar que la adolescente embarazada, o ya madre continúe su desarrollo, por ejemplo jardines infantiles en centros de estudios, horarios de trabajo flexibles, seguridad social y otros;

Comprometerse con la protección y atención de las madres solteras, con el fin de que estas se puedan incorporar productivamente a la economía del país, y tengan posibilidades de acceder a la educación.

International Meeting of Parliamentarians on Gender, Population and Development (IMPGPD)

TOKYO DECLARATION

ON

GENDER, POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

1 September, 1995

Tokyo, Japan

TOKYO DECLARATION
ON
GENDER, POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

We, the parliamentarians from 57 countries attending the International Meeting of Parliamentarians on Gender, Population and Development, in Tokyo, Japan, on 31 August and 1 September 1995, in addressing ourselves to the issues before the Fourth World Conference on Women (FWCW),

1. Affirm the unique and important role of parliamentarians in ensuring adequate attention to gender, population and development issues and, correspondingly, recognize the need to develop networks among parliamentarians at the national, regional and interregional levels to strengthen exchange and cooperation;

2. Affirm our belief that equitable and universal access to education and reproductive health and rights, including sexual health and rights, are a pre-requisite for improving the living conditions of all individuals, including adolescents, and for empowering women and promoting their advancement;

3. Note that some improvements have occurred in the situation of women worldwide in education and health since the Third World Conference on Women in Nairobi, Kenya, in 1985, although the pace of progress has been uneven between and within regions and countries;

4. Recognize the major challenges that still lie ahead and the unacceptable conditions in which many women, particularly in rural and peri-urban communities, still find themselves as the result of the increasing feminization of poverty in developing countries and among certain segments of the population in developed countries;

5. Recognize also that women and children suffer first and foremost under conditions of war and civil strife and stress that there can be no equality or development without peace and justice;

6. Emphasize that the human rights of women and the girl child are an inalienable,

integral and indivisible part of universal human rights and fundamental freedoms, as set forth in the Vienna Human Rights Declaration and Programme of Action;

7. Emphasize further, in this regard, that culture and religion should be interpreted and acted upon in such a way as to promote the human rights of women and the girl child;

8. Recognize that the FWCW is an integral part of a series of major United Nations international conferences that have taken place or are planned in the near future, including the Conference on Environment and Development, the World Conference on Human Rights, the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development and Habitat II, to find global solutions to development problems including those relating to gender;

9. Recognize also the critical importance of the FWCW in providing forward-looking goals and strategies that will aim at guaranteeing women equal rights and equal status with men and ensure that women are seen as agents of change since human development cannot be achieved unless women are assured these rights and status;

10. Recognize further that the empowerment of women and the creation of full and equal access for women to education that is relevant and necessary to their empowerment, to health, to employment, to political participation, and to economic resources, in particular, credit, land ownership and property rights, are fundamental in seeking a lasting solution to the interrelated issues of population, sustainable development and sustained economic growth;

11. Attach value to women's work, both inside and outside the home, and stress that women should receive equal pay for equal work and equal support within trade unions and other groups in the organized sector;

12. Emphasize the important role and experience of non-governmental organizations, including women's non-governmental organizations, in the design and implementation of population and development programmes;

13. Note with concern that the low economic and social status of women has a

negative impact on their quality of life and that of their families and on their health, especially their reproductive and sexual health and rights;

14. Emphasize, in this regard, that this low economic and social status is a major factor in the continued high rates of infant and maternal morbidity and mortality; the rapid increase of HIV/AIDS infection among women worldwide; the exposure to practices that are harmful to women's health or are dehumanizing including female genital mutilation, sex selection, early marriage and the commercialization of certain new reproductive technologies; and the prevalence of sexual abuse, exploitation and violence;

15. Note with concern the high, and in some cases increasing, rate of pregnancy among adolescents, in particular in the context of deteriorating economic conditions which have placed young women at increased risk of exploitation, prostitution, trafficking in women and children, drug abuse and unsafe sexual encounters and have diminished their already inadequate access to appropriate reproductive health information and services;

16. Urge the FWCW, in this regard, to reaffirm and reinforce the goals of and commitments made at previous United Nations Conferences and embodied in such documents as the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies, the Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Conference on Human Rights, the ICPD Programme of Action, and the Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development;

17. Reaffirm our strong commitment to the ICPD Programme of Action, in particular to issues relating to the eradication of poverty; the political, economic and social empowerment of women; the elimination of all forms of violence against women; reproductive and sexual health and rights including information and services to adolescents, and the need to deal with the health impact of unsafe abortion as a major public health concern and to reduce the recourse to abortion through expanded and improved family planning services;

18. Emphasize the need to change the attitudes and practices of both men and women concerning their roles in and contributions to society and urge men and women to

work in partnership to empower women and to bring about gender equality and equity in all spheres of economic, cultural, political and social life;

19. Emphasize further the need for women themselves to respect, value and give full support to other women to enable them to realize their full potential and to maximize their choices with respect to their various roles in society;

20. Recognize, in this regard, the important role of the media in eliminating stereotypes in all types of communication that reinforce existing inequalities between males and females and undermine girls' self-esteem.

Call to Action

Given our unique role in civil society as legislators and representatives of the people, we call on parliamentarians everywhere to:

21. Urge Governments to honour the commitments made at previous international and regional conferences and to allocate the resources pledged under the respective action plans and programmes;

22. Urge Governments to integrate gender perspectives into their development strategies, policies and programmes; to include equality and equity as basic rights in national and regional constitutions; to enact national legislation to ensure such integration, especially in population and development activities, and assure that, by the year 2005, women constitute at least 50 per cent of the membership of all governmental bodies, including elected and appointed positions at international, national and local levels; and to establish or strengthen mechanisms to monitor and evaluate progress in these areas;

23. Enact legislation to enable Governments to formulate and implement policies and programmes to improve the legal, health, social and economic status and rights of women and to promote the equal involvement of men in reproductive health, child-rearing and household responsibilities;

24. Encourage Governments to provide comprehensive health education in the

curricula of primary and secondary schools with the aim of improving the overall health status of women and girls and promoting responsible partnership;

25. Appeal to Governments that have not done so to sign the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, to have their parliaments ratify the Convention and to monitor its implementation;

26. Urge Governments to develop policies and laws that better support the family, contribute to its stability and take into account its plurality of forms, particularly the growing number of single-parent households and households headed by women;

27. Further urge Governments to recognize gender-based persecution as a category of refugee status and to take appropriate steps to avoid all forms of discrimination against migrants, refugees and displaced persons, particularly women and children, and to protect them from abuse or denial of their human rights;

28. Ensure that there is effective dialogue and collaboration among Governments, NGOs, civil society and the private sector in the development and implementation of strategies designed to improve women's status and bring about gender equality and equity;

29. Be advocates for women's empowerment and gender equality and oversee the implementation of the goals and recommendations of the ICPD and FWCW, paying particular attention to the need to mobilize the resources required to translate the goals and recommendations into reality;

30. Appeal to Governments to support the views of the women of the world to vigorously oppose the dumping of nuclear waste and the testing of nuclear weapons, especially in the Pacific where people are imposed upon and powerless to prevent the resumption of nuclear testing;

31. Urge the donor community to strive to fulfill the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance and to earmark 50 per cent of the share of this for women and gender-related activities as well as for population activities, and to monitor the use of these resources;

32. Urge also interested developed and developing country partners, on a mutual basis, to allocate, on average, 20 per cent of official development assistance and 20 per cent of the national budget to basic social programmes, especially by reducing military expenditures;

33. Urge Governments to maintain or increase funding levels for women and gender-related programmes, especially during periods of budget reductions and under structural adjustment and economic recovery programmes;

34. Urge international financial institutions to ensure that structural adjustment and economic recovery programmes are sensitive and address to social and gender-related issues and needs;

35. Generate public support among constituents for the mobilization and allocation of adequate domestic resources to support policies and programmes that will advance gender equality, promote social development and address pertinent population issues with special attention to rural and peri-urban communities.

We hereby commit ourselves to translate into political action the recommendations set forth in this Declaration and to ensure that the achievements of the ICPD are reaffirmed both during our participation at the Fourth World Conference on Women and in our national legislatures.

The Twelfth Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development

MANILA RESOLUTION

ON

WOMEN, GENDER, POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

13 February, 1996

Manila, Philippines

MANILA RESOLUTION
ON
WOMEN, GENDER, POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Preamble

We, Parliamentarians of Asia, concerned with Population and Development met in Manila to devise a strategy to achieve a brighter future for the family of Asian nations, the world community as a whole, and our Mother Earth.

Aware of the international trends flowing from the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD, 1994), the World Summit for Social Development (WSSD, 1995) and the Fourth World Conference on Women (FWCW, 1995) we have gathered for three successive years (in Beijing, Tokyo, and Manila) to deliberate on the theme "Women in the 21st Century — A Strategy for Peace and Prosperity."

Based on our conviction that women's full involvement is crucial to the solution of population issues which threaten the quality of life for millions of people across Asia as well as the natural environment, we make the following set of recommendations to our parliamentary colleagues and our respective governments believing that such recommendations will lead to greater empowerment of women in all spheres of life, thereby enabling them to be more effective partners in the family and community, more able to realize their full potential in life, and more articulate in identifying and working with others to fulfill their unmet needs.

Notwithstanding the vastness of our region, our rich cultural, religious, political, and economic diversity, the wide variation in our development experience and stages of development, we act together in proposing the following:

Introduction

We affirm that without full and equitable partnership of women and men, it will be impossible to solve population issues and attain social development and sustainable

economic development in harmony with the global environment. Achieving such partnership requires empowerment of women in all spheres of life — economic, social and political — by improving access to education and economic opportunities for girls and women across Asia. This will help improve women's status, expand their choices, as well as increasing their opportunities and ability to determine their own lives.

We recognize that population, sustainable economic growth, social development, security and peace are interdependent and mutually reinforcing, as are our efforts to reduce rapid population growth, eradicate poverty, protect the environment, create jobs and reduce unemployment.

We believe that the family is the basic unit of society and note with concern signs that its survival as a human institution is threatened. Inequities of power, gender, and income act on each other and all members of the family causing stress, tensions, even violence in the family setting. We therefore advocate strongly for efforts to improve gender equality as well as the effectiveness of population and other development programmes which are essential for survival of the family.

Recognizing the inter-relationship of poverty, rapid population growth, high infant, child and maternal mortality rates, we also urge countries of the region to accelerate the achievement of the targets set in Cairo.

Reductions in population growth rate and efforts to achieve environmentally sustainable patterns of development will fail without respect for human rights.

We also call attention to the fact that these goals will be unattainable without peace and justice. Women and children, always the foremost victims of war and civil strife, will continue to suffer disproportionately from social instability and continuing poverty. Therefore, we urge increased effort to achieve peaceful resolution of conflict and disputes throughout the region regardless of origin.

1. Women and Health

Universal access to appropriate reproductive health services including relevant education regarding sexual health and rights is a pre-requisite for improving the living conditions of individuals, including adolescents, and the family as a whole.

We point with alarm to the high — and, in some cases, increasing— rates of pregnancy among adolescent girls through the Asian region, as evidence of the need to provide adolescents with full information, education, and services related to their reproductive rights and sexual behavior.

Furthermore, we express concern at women's continuing recourse to unsafe abortions which are detrimental to their health and welfare and which reflect the deficiencies of existing family planning services.

We hereby pledge our strong commitment to promote expanded and improved availability and utilization of gender-sensitive reproductive health and family planning services across the region.

We urge governments to increase budgetary allocations to women and gender-related programmes to counterbalance deteriorating economic conditions. These conditions place young women and children at increased risk of domestic and international trafficking, exploitation, prostitution, and involvement in substance abuse and illegal drug trade. At the same time we call on appropriate national and regional bodies to direct serious and immediate attention to these issues which destroy the fabric of society and thrive on indecision and lack of political will and community involvement.

We recognize that persistence of women's low economic and social status in many parts of the region is a violation of their human rights and deplore the fact that they are major factors contributing to the high rates of infant and maternal morbidity and mortality, the exposure of some girls to harmful and dehumanizing practices such as female genital mutilation, sex selection and the commercialization and improper use of new reproductive technologies, as well as sexual abuse, exploitation, violence and the explosive spread of STDs and HIV/AIDS infection. We call for urgent and immediate action from the community to the international level to eliminate all these conditions and practices.

2. Empowering Women in Society and the Economy

Two thirds of the world's illiterates are women, the majority of whom are in rural Asia. The education of girls and women is necessary to overcome this pattern for the realization of women's own potential as well as broader social and economic development in the region. The feminization of poverty — a phenomenon noted for some time— continues in both urban and rural areas.

We call upon our respective governments to work to institute compulsory education for all girls and boys on the primary and secondary levels and to ensure wide utilization of the opportunities provided. Furthermore, we urge special attention to achievement of greater equity between girls and boys in vocational and higher education in order to make them more employable and economically self-reliant.

In the context of the call for wider educational opportunity we emphasize the need to promote changes in the attitudes and practices of both women and men regarding their respective roles in and contributions to society, moving away from traditional gender stereotypes towards concepts of equality, mutual respect, and harmonious partnership in all spheres of life, in particular, homemaking, parenting, and general family responsibility.

We also call for the elimination of persistent patterns of gender bias in the recruitment, compensation and advancement of workers, regardless of whether the employer is government or private sector.

We urge particular attention to the distinctive and unmet needs of women who are heading households regardless of the reason.

We emphasize the need for women themselves to respect, value and give full support to other women to enable them to realize their full potential and to maximize their choices with respect to their various roles in society.

We call upon the media to recognize their important role in communicating the new ideas of gender equity and partnership between women and men.

3. Resources for Population and Gender-Related Issues

We take note of the strong international consensus on the need to mobilize significant domestic and external financial resources. Furthermore we endorse the estimates of resource requirements set forth in the ICPD Programme of Action. We accept the responsibility as elected representatives of the people to ensure translation of public support for Population and Development into workable programmes with the best feasible distribution of budgetary, human and administrative resources. Moreover, we urge that additional resources for Population and Development programmes should be made available by reorienting budgets wherever possible.

We call upon the donor community to strive to allocate the set target of 0.7 percent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance, to earmark 50 percent of this share for women, population, and gender-related activities and to monitor the use of those resources according to agreed upon mechanisms. We also urge governments to honor their resource pledges stipulated in various action plans and programmes.

We encourage interested developed and developing country partners to allocate, on a mutual basis, 20 percent of official development assistance and 20 percent of the national budgets for basic social programmes. This may be accomplished by reducing military expenditures.

We urge international financial institutions to ensure that structural adjustment and economic recovery programmes are designed and implemented in a humane manner, conducive to realization of social justice, the achievement of gender equity, and fulfillment of the needs of women and their families.

We emphasize the need to generate public support among our constituents for mobilization and allocation of adequate domestic resources to support policies and programmes on Population and Development.

4. The Role of Parliamentarians in Population and Gender-Related Issues

We urge governments to integrate gender perspectives into their development

strategies, policies, and programmes, giving attention to the importance of gender issues in both objectives and management. We believe this to be particularly important in relation to legislation on Population and Development.

We recommend and endorse enactment of legislation which will enable governments to formulate and implement policies and programmes to improve the legal, social, economic and political status of women and assure them full enjoyment of their rights.

Recognizing that such action will not be easy we offer our support and will endeavor to promote greater awareness of, positive attitudes towards, and understanding of the complex inter-relationship between population, environmental conservation and sustainable development.

In the context of this effort, we commit ourselves to review and reevaluate women's involvement in politics in our respective countries. As representatives of the people and leaders of political life we accept our responsibility not only to advocate but also to act in our own sphere to build a more equitable society. In keeping with this, we will work to strengthen women's involvement in politics, particularly in decision making positions.

We recognize the need to develop and maintain good working relations with all who are active in promoting and implementing population, development, and gender-related programmes — the machinery of government, non-governmental organizations, women and men in the private sector.

In order to translate the action plans adopted at the major international conferences on the status of women into national legislation, we urge that appropriate research be carried out and that there be wide sharing of information and cooperation with technical experts in fields essential for addressing women's issues in the Asian region.

In this respect, we have a unique and important role. To fill this role effectively, we must develop networks among Parliamentarians at the national, regional and inter-regional levels. In particular, it is important to cultivate closer relations between Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) and other

regional fora of Parliamentarians. Such networks will enable us not only to deepen our understanding of the interdependence between issues in society and economy but will also promote and expand cooperation in solving these issues through exchange of experience.

Based on our conviction that Asia should play a leading role in the solution of the world's population issues, we, the participants of the 12th Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development, make the above resolution to be forwarded to our respective governments. At the same time we pledge ourselves to work for the realization of this resolution.

Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD)
Special Executive Committee Meeting on Food Security and Population

AFPPD STATEMENT

ON

FOOD SECURITY AND POPULATION

2 May, 1996
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

AFPPD STATEMENT
ON
FOOD SECURITY AND POPULATION

Asia is home of approximately sixty per cent of the world's population, with its diverse cultures and varied Socio-economic conditions. The Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, from their positions as parliamentarians mandated by the peoples to make responsible judgements for the future, presents the following statement on food security and population.

Preamble

In this century, humankind has experienced an unprecedented scale of population growth. While the rate has declined due to considerable efforts, both national and international, numbers of people in absolute terms continue to increase at an alarming rate leading to large increases in food consumption and powerful pressures on the global environment.

We must recognize that mother earth, too long taken for granted as having infinite resources, is indeed a unique and precious planet. No degree of scientific and technological progress will enable us to live beyond the limits of mother earth. We are indeed part of a single community destined to share the fate, within the confines of the closed system of our planet. We cannot escape from this reality and must find ways to ensure our survival in a sustainable manner.

In this century we have overall achieved a high degree of increase in food production due to the progress of science and technology in general and the Green Revolution in particular. The rate of food production had exceeded that of the population increase. However, there are going to be limitations to the availability of new cultivable land. The shortage of fresh water resources is also a serious concern that worsens every day. Furthermore, due to salt and acidic damage, over cropping and excessive use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, the soil has often lost its integrity causing marginal productivity to decline. We are also being reminded that the maritime resources which in the past seemed infinite are indeed finite resulting in declining harvest.

The earth, which seemed to have tolerated our misbehaviour in the past, is telling us of its limits through environmental deterioration.

It is also important to recognize that global projections on resource availability are too often made by narrow groups of specialists. As a way of ensuring balanced and realistic projects for the future, all countries should make their own assessments of their carrying capacity. This should be done by interdisciplinary groups, including scientists from different disciplines and government officials from different specialized agencies. Parliamentarians have both special responsibilities and special capacities to bring together and listen to these divergent views.

While global demand and supply projection of food and population give us cause for optimism in the short term, there is cause for pessimism in the long term. Before this stark reality, we must now begin our efforts to ensure that we hand over the planet to the future generation in a responsible manner. We, therefore, offer the following statement with regard to 1) population growth and food production, 2) food production and environment and 3) community development.

Population Growth and Food Production

Despite our commitment and efforts to reduce the rate of population increase, its numbers in absolute terms continue to increase. This implies a continued growth in the demand for food. Thus measures to limit population increase as much as possible are essential if humanity is to continue to survive on the planet. Furthermore, in order to diminish the load and to ensure sustainable food production we must develop agriculture that is in harmony with the environment.

As parliamentarians we stand committed to the population cause and by reaffirming the Cairo Declaration of the International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, the Copenhagen Statement of the International Meeting of Parliamentarians on Population and Social Development and the Tokyo Declaration of the International Meeting of Parliamentarians on Gender, Population and Development. The vision described at Cairo calls for substantial increases in resources for primary health care, family planning and reproductive health services, and primary education. This is especially critical for women and girls, and for

those living in rural areas who are often left behind in development efforts. We believe it is important for parliamentarians to encourage the international community and our own governments to increase resources for these activities.

Food Production and Environment

For half a century and more world food output has increased more rapidly than population growth. Social and technological developments have produced significant green revolutions. These past successes are important, but they can also give a sense of false food security. Even with past successes in output, there remain important distribution problems globally, nationally and within households. In ensuring future increases in food output, we must keep in focus the need for environmental protection so as to assure that agricultural development is sustainable.

Governments and parliamentarians should examine international agreements including those with WTO and see how such agreements will affect agricultural production in their countries. Similarly, the preferential trade agreements made between groups of countries may also impact agricultural production and price structures. Developed countries may take measures making it difficult for the excess agricultural production of developing countries to be exported. Governments would therefore do well to closely examine the impact of international agreements on agricultural exports to other countries. Before signing conventions/agreements, the governments should see to it that the conditions imposed by such agreements do not adversely affect agriculture and the environment in the concerned countries.

We recognize the important focus on food production at the Summit. Equal emphasis, should be placed on issues of food access and use, especially amongst the most disadvantaged communities. The rural and urban poor must have access to sufficient food for sustainable livelihood. Rural producers of food and forest resources, especially women, must have ownership of productive assets such as land, credit and appropriate technology. Continued efforts should be made to increase food production through processes already well known, such as increased rural credit, small scale irrigation schemes and agricultural experimentation and extension services. These are well known and well understood processes, which all too often are not sufficiently provided to small producers.

In the context of food production, there are many signals that current agricultural processes are environmentally destructive and thus are not sustainable. Greater effort must be made to reduce environmental degradation and to develop a more sustainable agriculture.

Environmental limitation varies by economic sector; ie, whether it is agriculture, forestry or fisheries; manufacturing or services. Agro-forestry-fishery industries are directly impacted by physical and environmental limitations such as availability of crop land, conditions of soil and climate. In this regard, unlike other industrial sectors, it is most important that a pattern of sustainable agriculture is developed taking into full consideration environmental parameters. On the other hand, properly managed agriculture and forestry production can contribute to the preservation of the environment.

As parliamentarians, we acknowledge that no activity will ensure our survival once there is a collapse of the system of primary production - agro-forestry-fisheries. Many of the primary productive processes we engage in today are environmentally destructive and not sustainable. Hence, all such processes must be reviewed from the perspective of environmental preservation and sustainable development so as to build a fair and reasonable economic and trading system for each sector of production.

We have to ensure food security at the global level by expanding regional and international cooperation, while encouraging each nation to produce food based on its environmental conditions and cultural traditions. Equally, we need to find ways to formulate more rational economic policies that will help build a trading system essential to preserving finite global environment. Food relief to meet with emergencies, such as earthquakes, famine flood etc are some examples of such cooperations.

Build a food security system at the regional, inter-regional and global levels based on mutual cooperation by expanding cooperative relations between food importing and exporting countries.

Another area of concern is the need to conduct policy research, for the purpose of building a tax system that induces protection of the environment, by broadly applying

the concept of carbon tax, to reflect the value and cost of environmental protection in economic activity. By constructing such a system in which developing countries may benefit , will protect the environment by earmarking revenues accrued from the levy of carbon tax for environmental preservation.

We need to ensure sustainable agriculture, by building a cyclical system that balances economic, social, cultural and technological requirements optimally combining natural and ecological parameters. That is to say, a symbiotic system must be built that will organically incorporate humans, living creatures and the environment.

Community Development

The rural community, which has played a large role in ensuring food and water resources and preserving the environment in the process of modernization, is everywhere under stress from population growth. Accompanying the stress is the population exodus from farming communities to the city, undermining public safety and causing environmental degradation of urban communities and the decrease in land for cultivation.

As a result of the population pressure and mobility, the capacity of the farm community to produce food, manage land and preserve the environment is being eroded. There is an urgent need for community development in order to curb population growth and realize food production in harmony with the environment.

Governments should develop appropriate legislative frameworks to provide incentives to local producers so as to enable communities to organize themselves for their own interests and benefits. Attention should be paid to such things as independent judiciary and media to promote the empowerment of local people with particular emphasis on women. No community development can be realized without integrating women's human resources and potential in the development process.

We recognize that in many societies farmers lack economic and social power, and are subject to forces of the elements as well as decisions made by remote government. While in some developed societies farmers do exercise considerable power, used often to resist fundamental change, this is not so in developing countries. Effort

must be made to enable all farmers to exercise meaningful economic social power.

Community development also means the need to promote and ensure reproductive rights by making available reproductive health services including family planning and sexual health, as defined in the ICPD Programe of Action, to all rural areas and farm communities.

Development of small and medium towns assists in optimizing population distribution and building viable communities. Such development may prevent over concentration of population in large cities and encourage development of farm communities in harmony with the environment.

Population, sustainable food production, environmental protection and social development are mutually reinforcing and inter-dependent variables. Success in these areas requires a comprehensive and interdisciplinary approach which must link specialized agencies of government and be expeditiously implemented.

We believe that participation of persons at risk in terms of food security and malnutrition is essential for arriving at problem assessment and appropriate actions. At the World Food Summit attention should be drawn to successful participatory approaches to improving food security and population programs. Improving women's and girls' education and their social participation will facilitate improvements in women's roles in household and community decision making, including not only reproductive health choices but also improving access to and use of credit, agricultural technology and nutritional resources.

As stated in the resolutions adopted at parliamentarians' meetings of the past, peace, participation, coordination and an interdisciplinary approach are essential to solving these food security and population problems. Asian parliamentarians offer this statement as testimony to our commitment for our collective future by reaffirming that the only way to solve these common challenges lies in working together.

The Fifth General Conference

Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development

CANBERRA STATEMENT

ON

FOOD SECURITY, POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

27 September, 1996

Parliament House

Canberra, Australia

CANBERRA STATEMENT
ON
FOOD SECURITY, POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

1. We Parliamentarians from 29 countries of the Asia and Pacific region, home to approximately 60 per cent of the world's population and a rich cultural, traditional and religious diversity, attending the Fifth General Conference of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) in Canberra, Australia, from 25 to 27 September 1996, present the following statement on food security and population.1/

PREAMBLE

2. In this century, humankind has experienced an unprecedented scale of population growth. While the rate of population growth has declined due to considerable efforts, both national and international, numbers of people in absolute terms continue to increase at an alarming rate leading to large increases in food consumption and powerful pressures on the global environment, including the fragile ecosystems of island nations.

3. We must recognize that mother earth, too long taken for granted as having infinite resources, is indeed a unique and precious planet. No degree of scientific and technological progress will enable us to live beyond the limits of mother earth. We are part of a single community, destined to share a common fate, within the confines of the finite and the closed system of our planet. We cannot escape from this reality and must find ways to ensure our survival in a sustainable manner.

4. We must also recognize that food security is world security. It has a direct bearing not only on people's well-being but also on social stability, regional and world peace. Food security, therefore, is vitally important to all countries and to the international community as a whole.

5. In this century, we have overall achieved a high degree of increases in food production due to the progress of science and technology in general and to the

success of the Green Revolution in particular. As a result, the rate of food production has exceeded that of the population increase. However, there are signs that this may be changing. There are going to be limitations to the availability of new cultivable land, and the shortage of fresh water resources is a serious concern which appears to be worsening every day. Furthermore, due to salt and acidic damage, over- cropping and excessive use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, the soil has lost its integrity, causing marginal productivity to decline. We are also being reminded that the maritime resources, which in the past seemed infinite, are indeed finite, resulting in declining harvest. The earth, which seemed to have tolerated our misbehaviour in the past, is telling us of its limits through environmental deterioration.

6. It is also important to recognize that global projections on resource availability are too often made by narrow groups of specialists. As a way of ensuring balanced and realistic projections for the future, all countries should make their own assessments of their carrying capacity. This should be done by interdisciplinary groups, including scientists from different disciplines and government officials from different specialized agencies. Parliamentarians have both special responsibilities and special capacities to bring together and listen to these divergent views.

7. While projections of global demand and supply of food and population growth give us cause for optimism in the short term, there is cause for pessimism over the long term. Before this stark reality, we must begin our efforts now to ensure that we hand over the planet in a responsible manner to the future generation. We, therefore, offer the following statement with regard to 1) population growth and food production, 2) food production and environment and 3) community development.

Population Growth and Food Production

8. Despite our commitment and efforts to reduce the rate of population increase, its numbers in absolute terms continue to increase. This implies a continued growth in the demand for food. Thus measures to limit population increase as much as possible are essential if humanity is to continue to survive on the planet.

Furthermore, in order to diminish the load and to ensure sustainable food production we must develop agriculture that is in harmony with the environment.

9. As parliamentarians we stand committed to the population cause by reaffirming: the Cairo Declaration of the International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development; the Copenhagen Statement of the International Meeting of Parliamentarians on Population and Social Development and the Tokyo Declaration of the International Meeting of Parliamentarians on Gender, Population and Development. The vision described at Cairo calls for substantial increases in resources for primary health care, family planning and reproductive health services, and primary education. This is especially critical for women and girls, and for those living in rural areas, who are often left behind in development efforts. We believe it is important for parliamentarians to encourage the international community and their own governments to increase resources for these activities.

Food Production and Environment

10. For more than a half a century, world food output has increased more rapidly than population growth. Social and technological developments and agricultural policies have produced significant green revolutions. These past successes are important, but they can also give a false sense of security. Even with past successes in output, there remain important distribution problems globally, nationally and within communities and households. In ensuring future increases in food output, we must keep in focus the need for environmental protection, so as to assure that agricultural development is sustainable.

11. Governments and parliamentarians should examine international agreements, including those with the World Trade Organization (WTO), and see how such agreements will affect agricultural production in their countries. Similarly, preferential trade agreements made between groups of countries may also negatively affect agricultural production and price structures. Developed countries may often make it difficult for developing countries to export their excess agricultural production. Governments would therefore do well to closely examine the impact of international agreements on agricultural exports. Before

signing conventions/agreements, the governments should see to it that the conditions imposed by such agreements do not adversely affect agriculture and the environment in the countries concerned.

12. We recognize the importance of food production which will be the focus at the World Food Summit. Equal emphasis should be placed on issues of food access and use, especially amongst the most disadvantaged communities and individual producers. The rural and urban poor must have access to sufficient food for sustainable livelihood. Rural producers of food and forest resources, especially women, must have ownership of productive assets such as land and have access to credit and appropriate technologies. Continued efforts should be made to increase food production through processes already well known, such as increased rural credit, small-scale irrigation schemes and agricultural experimentation and extension services. These are well known and well understood processes, which all too often are not sufficiently provided to small producers.

13. In the context of food production, there are many signals that current agricultural processes are environmentally destructive and thus are not sustainable. For example, the world demand for water is increasing twice as fast as population growth, and there is a host of water-related problems that need addressing, including pollution of aquifers by chemicals, soil erosion in steeplands caused by deforestation and intensive agriculture, salinisation of irrigated areas, and receding water tables, among many others. Greater effort must be made, therefore, to reduce environmental degradation, improve ground-water management, and develop a more sustainable agriculture.

14. Environmental limitation varies by economic sector, whether it is agriculture, forestry or fisheries, or manufacturing or services. Agro-forestry-fishery industries are directly impacted by physical and environmental limitations such as availability of crop land, conditions of soil, level of water tables and climate. In this regard, unlike other industrial sectors, it is most important that a pattern of sustainable agriculture is developed taking into full consideration environmental parameters. On the other hand, properly managed agriculture and forestry production can contribute to the preservation of the environment.

15. As Parliamentarians, we acknowledge that no activity will ensure our survival if there were a collapse of the system of primary production - agro-forestry-fisheries. Many of the primary productive processes we engage in today are environmentally destructive and not sustainable. Hence, all such processes must be reviewed from the perspective of environmental preservation and sustainable development so as to build a fair and reasonable economic and trading system for each section of production.

16. We have to ensure food security at the global level by expanding regional and international co-operation, while encouraging each nation to produce food based on its environmental conditions and cultural traditions. Equally, we need to find ways to formulate more rational economic policies that will help to build a global trading system essential to preserving the finite global environment and addressing population concerns.

17. Food relief at times of natural and man-made disasters and emergencies requires regional and global co-operation. In order to build a food security system at the regional, inter-regional and global levels based on mutual co-operation, it is important to expand co-operative relations between food importing and exporting countries and to ensure that food is not used as a form of threat or any means of exploitation.

18. Another area of concern is the need to continue supporting established agricultural research, particularly adaptive and participatory research, through international and national institutions, especially in developing countries, which has produced such high economic and social returns in the past. In addition, it is necessary to promote new forms of interdisciplinary policy research for the purpose of building a tax system that provides incentives to protect the environment, taking into account the value and cost of environmental protection in economic activity.

Community Development

19. The rural community, which has played a large role in ensuring food and water resources and preserving the environment in the process of modernization, is

under stress as a result of population growth. Accompanying the stress is the population exodus from farming communities to the city, undermining public safety and causing environmental degradation of urban communities and a decrease in land for cultivation.

20. As a result of the population pressure and mobility, the capacity of the farm community to produce food, manage land and preserve the environment is being eroded. There is an urgent need for community development to curb population growth and realize food production in harmony with the environment.

21. Governments should develop appropriate legislative frameworks to provide incentives to local producers so as to enable communities to organize themselves for their own interests and benefits. Attention should be paid to such things as an independent judiciary and media to promote the empowerment of local people with particular emphasis on women. No community development can be realized without developing women's human resources and potential and integrating them fully into the development process.

22. We recognize that in many societies farmers lack economic, political and social power, and are subject to forces of the elements and decisions by remote governments. While in some developed societies farmers do exercise considerable power, often to resist fundamental changes, this is not so in developing countries. Efforts must be made to enable all farmers to exercise meaningful economic, political and social power, especially through education and training.

23. Community development also means the need to promote and ensure reproductive rights by making available reproductive health services, including family planning and sexual health, as defined in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), to all rural areas and farm communities.

24. Development of small and medium towns, with an emphasis on providing such basic amenities as safe water and electricity, assists in optimising population distribution and building viable communities. Such development may help to prevent over- concentration of population in large cities and encourage

development of farm communities in harmony with the environment.

25. Population, sustainable food production, environmental protection and social development are mutually reinforcing and inter-dependent variables. Success in these areas requires a comprehensive and interdisciplinary approach which must link specialized agencies of government and be expeditiously implemented.

26. People at risk must be involved in identifying appropriate actions to address food insecurity and malnutrition. The World Food Summit, therefore, should examine cases in which popular participation has succeeded in improving food security and population programmes. Improving women s and girls education and enhancing their participation in all aspects of society and development will facilitate improvements in women s roles in decision making, concerning not only their reproductive health choices but also their access to and use of credit, agricultural technology and nutritional resources.

Commitment to Collective Action

27. As stated in the resolutions adopted at past meetings of parliamentarians, peace, participation, co-ordination and an interdisciplinary approach are essential to solving problems of food security and population. We Parliamentarians from the Asia and Pacific region offer this statement as testimony to our firm commitment for a collective future, by reaffirming that the only way to meet these common challenges lies in working together. We therefore strongly urge the international community to honour the commitments it made at the recent major international conferences and to translate these commitments into concrete actions. We further urge the international community to make every effort to maintain a close working relationship with all agencies and organizations active in the population and development field, including the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development and its fellow parliamentarian groups.

1/ This statement takes into account the AFPPD Executive Committee Statement on Food Security and Population adopted in Kuala Lumpur on 2 May 1996 and the Statement of Parliamentarians on Food Security, Population and Development adopted at the Pacific Regional Meeting of Parliamentarians in Coral Coast, Fiji, on 14 August 1996.

The International Meeting of Parliamentarians on
Food Security, Population and Development
(IMPFSPD)

GENEVA DECLARATION

ON

FOOD SECURITY, POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

10 -11 November, 1996
Geneva, Switzerland

GENEVA DECLARATION
ON
FOOD SECURITY, POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

1. We Parliamentarians from 57 countries throughout the world attending the International Meeting on Food Security, Population and Development in Geneva, Switzerland, on 10-11 November 1996, present the following statement and call to action on food security and population.

Preamble

2. Food insecurity is multifaceted in nature. Poverty and population growth, distribution and movement are major causes of food insecurity. Social, political and economic instability and injustice contribute significantly to it.

3. Lifestyles, dietary habits, income and social organization determine individual levels of demand for food. Population is a multiplier that fixes total demand. The technologies in use, the extent to which human activities damage or sustain the environment, and the amount of waste associated with different levels of consumption determine production capacity.

4. No degree of scientific and technological progress will enable us to live beyond the limits of the planet earth. We are all part of a single community, destined to share a common fate, within the confines of the finite and closed system of our planet. We cannot escape this reality and must find ways to ensure our survival in a sustainable manner.

5. Food security is global security. It is also individual security which releases the creative and productive energy of humans. It therefore has a direct bearing not only on people s well-being but also on social stability, productivity and equality, as well as on national, regional and world peace. Food security, thus, is vitally important to all people and all countries at all times and to the international community as a whole.

6. The following points are self-evident:

(a) poverty must be eradicated to improve sustainable production and access to food;

(b) food is a basic human need, constituting one of the most fundamental of all human rights;

(c) food-security and related social-development programmes should be given the highest priority on development agendas;

(d) a peaceful, stable and enabling social, economic and political environment is a fundamental condition for attaining sustainable food security;

(e) political instability and all forms of conflict are major hindrances to the achievement of food security;

(f) equal access to and distribution of staple food supplies must be ensured, especially for women and children;

(g) women must have equal access to, and right to ownership of, the means of production of food supplies;

(h) rural and community development is a prerequisite to sustainable food security;

(i) fair trade is a key element in achieving sustainable food security;

(j) the early stabilization of population is a primary condition for realizing sustainable food security;

(k) the best prospect for slowing and eventually stabilizing population growth is to put decision-making power in the hands of women;

(l) an important first step in involving women in decision making is to ensure their education, reproductive rights and provide them with reproductive health care in all its aspects;

(m) the deliberate destruction of surplus food must be deplored, and all steps must be taken to minimize the wastage of food.

7. The keys to effective action are advocacy, dialogue and partnership – advocacy of human rights and fundamental freedoms and of equality for all; dialogue to ensure that the interests of all parties are taken into account; and partnership to ensure a truly participatory process. These are integral components of good governance.

Call to Action

8. We Parliamentarians, as the crucial link between government and civil society and the main channel of communication to articulate the people's needs, are determined to act as catalysts to urge the Executive Branch of our Governments to implement the commitments set forth in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action, both of which will be adopted at the opening session of the World Food Summit. We therefore call on Parliamentarians everywhere:

(a) To table the Rome Declaration and World Food Summit Plan of Action in their Parliaments and to bring them to the attention of the public;

(b) To encourage national media to give wide coverage to the commitments agreed at Rome and to promote awareness of the importance of the underlying causes of food insecurity, in particular those related to population factors, and of the need for concerted collective action at the national, regional and international level to address them;

(c) To promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all people and in particular of women, children, the poor and the vulnerable;

(d) To promote the full and equal participation of women and men in decision making and actions that affect their food security;

(e) To enact legislation providing rural producers of food, especially women, with

equal access to and ownership of productive assets including credit, appropriate technology, land and water;

(f) To promote and ensure reproductive rights by making reproductive health services available to women and men, including family planning and sexual health services, as defined in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development;

(g) To promote universal access to education, especially of women and girls so as to enhance their participation in all aspects of society and development, and thereby improve women's roles in decision making, including in the area of reproductive health, and increase their access to and use of credit, agricultural technology and nutritional resources;

(h) To support policies that provide youth with better access to health care, education and opportunities and that promote their participation in food security activities;

(i) To involve people at risk, especially the extremely poor and members of disadvantaged groups, such as minorities and the disabled, in identifying appropriate actions to address food insecurity and malnutrition;

(j) To encourage the economic and social development of rural areas as part of national development policies that seek to address the principal causes of accelerated migration from rural to urban areas, which has given rise to the largest population shift of all times;

(k) To ensure that water is an integral part of national development planning and encourage the development of rain-fed agriculture where appropriate;

(l) To develop legislative frameworks and policies that stimulate agricultural development at the community level and that provide for increased investment in national capacity building in food and water security, including rain-water harvesting where appropriate; extension services; training; and the transfer of environmentally sound agricultural technology;

(m) To improve ground-water management and address such water-related problems as pollution of aquifers by chemicals; soil erosion caused by deforestation, desertification and intensive agriculture; salinisation of irrigated areas; and receding water tables;

(n) To promote the early ratification and implementation of international agreements and conventions designed to sustain the use and conservation of fisheries resources and of marine and freshwater biodiversity;

(o) To support established agricultural research, particularly adaptive and participatory research, especially through national institutions, and promote new forms of interdisciplinary policy research for the purpose of building a tax system that provides incentives to protect the environment, taking into account the value and cost of environmental protection in economic activity;

(p) To review the agricultural, forestry and fishery industries from the perspective of environmental preservation and sustainable development with a view to building a fair and reasonable economic and trading system for each section of production;

(q) To encourage the Executive Branch of Governments to formulate more rational economic policies that will help to build an equitable global trading system essential to preserving the finite global environment and addressing population concerns;

(r) To examine international agreements, including those with the World Trade Organization (WTO), to ensure that the conditions imposed by such agreements do not violate cultural practices including those around traditional food staples or adversely affect agricultural production and the environment in the countries concerned;

(s) To encourage the expansion and institutionalization of cooperative relations between food-importing and food-exporting countries and the assurance that food will not be used as a form of threat, political and economic pressure or any means of exploitation, including sanctions imposed unilaterally;

(t) To promote cultural and social solidarity among the people of developed and developing countries concerning the human cost of food insecurity;

(u) To encourage partnership between developed and developing countries to exchange experiences as well as ideas and technologies;

(v) To encourage the international financial institutions to examine and review the impact of their policies and structural adjustment programmes on food security;

(w) To urge national governments to facilitate coordination among multilateral organizations working in the area of food security.

Dedication

We Parliamentarians commit and dedicate ourselves to the successful implementation of this Call to Action and to the effective mobilization and/or re-channeling of the additional resources needed at the national and international levels to meet the challenges set forth herein. We therefore call on policy and decision makers in all countries to demonstrate the political will required to give high priority to translating the commitments set forth in the World Food Summit Plan of Action into concrete action. We also strongly urge all countries to honour the commitments they made at the recent major international conferences, in particular the International Conference on Population and Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women, and to re-order their national and international priorities to do so, if required.

Forum of African and Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development (FAAPPD)

CAPE TOWN DECLARATION

1 - 4 MAY, 1997

Cape Town, South Africa

We, Parliamentarians from Africa and the Arab States representing twenty six (26) Parliaments with sixteen (16) All Party National Groups/Committees of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (hereafter National Groups/Committees) and thirty two (32) Parliaments which are in the process of forming such National Groups/Committees meeting in Cape Town, South Africa from 1-4 May 1997;

RECALLING the Cairo Declaration on Population and Development adopted by the International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (ICPPD) which met in Cairo from 3-4 September 1994, and in particular the CALL TO ACTION which inter alia called on Parliamentarians everywhere to "establish and/or strengthen, at sub-national, national, regional and global levels, parliamentary committees on population and development"; and also the Dakar/Ngor and Amman Declarations;

BEARING in mind the decision made at the International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development in Cairo by Parliamentarians from Africa and the Arab States to appoint a Steering Committee to formulate a draft constitution to cater for the establishment of a permanent mechanism for parliamentarians on population and development for purposes of monitoring and evaluating population and development issues in the region, and subsequently undertake to hold a General Conference to approve the draft constitution and to formally and officially launch the permanent mechanism so recommended;

PAYING tribute to the Parliament, Government and people of South Africa for hosting the Inaugural First General Conference of African and Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development in Cape Town, and for the excellent arrangements made and facilities and hospitality offered for the Conference;

APPRECIATING the sponsorship of the Conference by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and the financial and moral support and encouragement given to the Steering Committee and a number of Parliaments in their efforts to meet in Harare, Amman and Cape Town to prepare for the Conference, and to form National Groups/Committees;

ACKNOWLEDGING the support, encouragement and advice given by several organizations to the Steering Committee in its preparatory work, including the Organization of African Unity (OAU); the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD); the Inter-American Parliamentary Group on Population and Development (IAPG); the International Planned Parenthood Federation Africa Region (IPPFAR); the Global Committee of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (GCPPD) and several other United Nations (UN) agencies and bilateral donors, in particular the Danish Government, in the population and development field;

NOTING with satisfaction the valuable work undertaken by the Steering Committee and the South African Organizing Committee in the organizing of the Conference;

APPRECIATING the addresses to the Conference by the Hon. Minister of Justice, Dr Dullah Omar, and the Hon. Minister of Welfare and Population Development, Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi, of South Africa;

HEREBY ADOPT this CAPE TOWN DECLARATION on this third day of May 1997.

1. CALL TO ACTION

(a) Given our role in our countries as elected representatives of our people, having adopted our Constitution and formally launched the Forum of African and Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development (FAAPPD), we call upon Parliamentarians in Africa and the Arab States to translate into action the implementation of the CAPE TOWN DECLARATION in our constituencies, national parliaments and countries;

(b) bearing in mind Parliamentarians' unique position in society, the CAPE TOWN DECLARATION demands that Parliamentarians be advocates for the goals of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), in particular reproductive health, including family planning and sexual health, and the promotion of gender equity, equality, and the empowerment of women, inter

alia by speaking to governments on behalf of the voiceless; by promoting action to bring about and implement more favourable policies; and by building coalitions and alliances with partners sharing similar objectives in order to push forward the agendas the ICPD and the Fourth World Conference on Women;

2. FORMATION OF NATIONAL GROUPS/COMMITTEES

(a) We call upon Parliaments who have not yet done so, to expedite the formation of National Groups/Committees.

3. DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS AND HEALTH STATUS

(a) We call upon Parliamentarians to take urgent individual and collective action to improve the current demographic trends and health status with particular reference to maternal and infant morbidity and mortality; adolescent and youth reproductive health; and poverty eradication.

4. NATIONAL PLANS OF ACTION

(a) We call upon National Groups/Committees to ensure that National Plans of Action are in place to honour the commitments made by their governments to implement the ICPD Programme of Action and related United Nations Plans/Programmes of Action.

5. RESPONSIBILITY OF PARLIAMENTARIANS IN PROMOTING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH INCLUDING FAMILY PLANNING AND SEXUAL HEALTH

(a) We urge Parliamentarians to utilize their important position for the promotion of quality reproductive health information and services, especially to underserved groups and areas.

6. POPULATION DYNAMICS, SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL FACTORS

(a) We urge Parliamentarians to understand that there is an undeniable link between population dynamics and legal, political, cultural and socio-economic factors;

(b) we call upon Parliamentarians to review socio-economic policies and enact legislation to promote the necessary enabling environment for effective provision of quality reproductive health information and services.

7. NETWORKING WITH POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS

(a) We urge National Groups/Committees to work closely with NGOs, UNFPA and other multilateral agencies in advocating for population and development.

8. COMMITMENT

(a) We, Parliamentarians from Africa and the Arab States, commit ourselves to work towards the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action and to involve our fellow Parliamentarians in promoting reproductive health and family planning programmes and also in mobilizing resources to achieve these objectives through FAAPPD.

Voices from Parliaments in Europe Workshop

DECLARATION

4 - 5 September, 1998
Brussels, Belgium

DECLARATION
from
Voices from Parliaments in Europe Workshop

Preamble

We, the participants attending the Voices from Parliaments in Europe workshop held in Brussels, Belgium, on 4 and 5 September 1998 from Parliaments in nine European countries, six additional countries from Africa, Asia and Latin America[1], and the European Parliament, working towards increased collaboration and working together for a common cause.

Re-affirming our support for the commitments enshrined in the Cairo Programme of Action, adopted by acclamation by the 180 states participating in the negotiations **and requesting strongly** that our governments honour their commitments - in particular the resource commitment of US$ 5.7 billion from donor countries by the year 2000 to meet sexual and reproductive health needs world-wide

Endorsing the principle of the five-year review of the Cairo Programme of Action (Cairo +5), and awaiting the outcome of that review and the outcomes of discussions of it by the international community.

Recognising that the Declaration of the European Parliamentary Forum for Action, the European Parliamentarians' Conference held in Brussels, 26-27 May 1995, attended by Parliamentarians from 28 European countries and 10 additional countries from other regions of the world called for 'facilitating the setting up of Parliamentary groups on population, sustainable development and reproductive health'

Acknowledging the importance of the regional networks of Parliamentary groups in the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, the Inter-American Parliamentary Group on Population and Development, the Forum of African and Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development, and the current network of formal and informal cross party parliamentary groups in donor and potential donor countries inside and outside the European Union, supported by

[1] Parliamentarians from Latin America could not support the references to abortion in the Declaration, in particular the call for new targets to "reduce the incidence of unsafe abortion".

Family Planning Associations (FPAs) , the International Planned Parenthood Federation's (IPPF) European Network, non governmental organisations (NGOs) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

Recognising the unique value and importance of visits by parliamentarians, journalists and NGO representatives from donor and potential donor countries to reproductive and sexual health and population projects in developing countries to raise awareness and increase understanding of sexual and reproductive health and rights and population issues as essential elements of human rights and sustainable development world-wide.

Recognising also the value and importance of visits of parliamentarians, media, and NGOs from recipient countries to donor and potential donor countries

Noting that all participants on study visits need to ensure effective follow-up in their own country in order to have a significant impact on governments and policy-makers

Gratefully **acknowledging** the essential role of UNFPA, The Asian Forum, IPPF, international foundations and national and international NGOs in funding and facilitating and organising overseas study visits

Noting that world population will reach six billion by the middle of next year and that 95% of world population growth will occur in the developing world

And **recognising** at the same time that little progress has been made to address the question of production and consumption patterns of industrialised countries, and that this continues to have serious consequences concerning sustainable development

Shocked and appalled that five years after the International Conference on Population and Development, among many other interrelated issues, appropriate sexual and reproductive health information and services are still lacking, and

- more than 580,000 women still die each year as a result of pregnancy and childbirth, the majority of whom are under the age of 20
- 20 million unsafe abortions still occur yearly
- at any one time 120 million women do not want to become pregnant but still have

no access to contraception

- 15 million girls aged 15-19 give birth yearly while pregnancy and childbirth are the main cause of death for this age group
- between 100 million and 132 million women and girls alive today have been subjected to female genital mutilation
- 30.6 million people are living with HIV/AIDS – the vast majority – 85 per cent in Africa and Asia *
- sexual violence and violence to women and children remains an issue that affects many millions of individuals around the world

(UNFPA, 1997, The State of World Population, * UNAIDS/WHO Report on the global HIV/AIDS Epidemic, 1997)

Call on parliamentarians in donor and potential donor countries to

- **Reaffirm and update** existing Cairo targets and commitments incorporating relevant changes made at the Beijing conference.

- **Set** new targets for the International Conference on Population and Development in 2004 (Cairo +10) which will increase access to sex education and to reproductive and sexual health and contraceptive services, particularly for young people, and reduce incidence of unsafe abortion, and infant and maternal mortality, while also recognising the priority issues of ageing population, migration, employment, social security systems, and European countries in transition.

- **Co-operate** with FPAs, other NGOs and the IPPF European Network to facilitate the setting up of Parliamentary groups – which should include representatives from different parties - on population, sustainable development and sexual and reproductive health where they do not exist, or strengthening existing groups as appropriate.

- **Use** the significant expertise of NGOs to provide comprehensive support and technical advice to Parliamentarians at the national, European and international level including assistance in disseminating experience of study visits.

- **Formalise** the existing networks of Parliamentarians into a world-wide network, and capitalise on work already being carried out by the IPPF European Network,

UNFPA and those parliamentary groups and initiatives, supported by NGOs and FPAs in their respective countries.

- **Improve** co-ordination by co-operating with UNFPA, IPPF and other NGOs and networks to identify priority countries for study tours by groups of Parliamentarians, journalists and NGO representatives from donor and potential donor countries.

- **Contribute to** guidelines and best codes of practice based on experience from visits already undertaken in order to ensure effective frameworks for visits and effective follow-up.

- **Recognise** that no part of the world, including Eastern Europe and countries in transition, be excluded from any part of this process.

- **Integrate** sexual and reproductive health and rights into all development projects as appropriate for example, understanding the interrelationship of sexual and reproductive health and poverty alleviation.

- **Ensure** that recipients of World Bank and other international institutions loans and grants understand the benefits of sexual and reproductive health as an essential component of development and development assistanc

HISTORY OF PARLIAMENTARIANS' ACTIVITIES

AFPPD

– Asia and the Pacific –

1981

Oct. 27-30,

Asian Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development
at Beijing, China
Organized by AFPPD
- The Beijing Declaration was adopted
- AFPPD Launched

Oct. 30,

Steering Committee Meeting of the Asian Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development
at Beijing, China
Organized by AFPPD

1982

Feb. 10,

APDA (Asian Population and Development Association-Foundation-) established
at Tokyo, Japan
- APDA was founded as the supporting organization of AFPPD
Proposed at the 3rd Steering Committee Meeting at Beijing, China

Mar. 8-9,

1st Executive Committee Meeting
at New Delhi, India
Organized by AFPPD
- AFPPD was officially inaugurated in accordance with the Beijing Declaration
- Discussed future program

Aug. 2-3,

1st Preparatory Steering Committee Meeting for Delhi Conference
at Manila, Philippines
Organized by AFPPD

1983

Oct. 10-11,

2nd Preparatory Steering Committee Meeting for Delhi Conference
at Bangkok, Thailand
Organized by AFPPD

1984

Feb. 16,

2nd Executive Committee Meeting of AFPPD
at New Delhi, India
Organized by AFPPD

Feb. 17-20,

1st General Conference of AFPPD
at New Delhi, India
Organized by AFPPD
- Mr. Takashi Sato was elected as AFPPD Chairman

Feb. 20,

Asian Forum of Representatives on Population and Development
at New Delhi, India
Organized by APDA –AFPPD

1985

Feb. 5-7,

1st Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development
at Tokyo, Japan
Organized by APDA-AFPPD
- Participants from 11 countries

May. 13-14,

National Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development
at New Delhi, India
Organized by AFPPD
- Discussed population policy

1986

Mar. 3-5,

2nd Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development
at Tokyo, Japan
Organized by APDA-AFPPD
- Participants from 7 countries

Oct. 17-18,

3rd Executive Committee Meeting of AFPPD
at Jakarta, Indonesia
Organized by AFPPD

1987

Feb. 23-24,

3rd Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development
at Bangkok, Thailand
Organized by APDA-AFPPD
- Participants from 10 countries

Sep. 23-25,

2nd General Conference of AFPPD
at Beijing, China
Organized by AFPPD
- Beijing Declaration was adopted
- The AFPPD Constitution was adopted

1988

Feb. 29- Mar. 1,

4th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development
at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Organized by APDA-AFPPD
- Participants from 12 countries

July 1,

Proclamation of Population Milestone: The Day of the Three Billion in Asia.
at Tokyo, Japan
Organized by APDA-AFPPD

Nov. 28,

4th Executive Committee Meeting
at Tokyo, Japan
Organized by AFPPD

1989

Feb. 17-18,

5th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development
at Manila, Philippines
Organized by APDA-AFPPD
- Participants from 10 countries

Feb. 19,

5th Executive Committee Meeting
at Manila, Philippines
Organized by AFPPD

Sep. 11-12,

6th Executive Committee Meeting
at Tokyo, Japan
Organized by AFPPD

Sep. 13,

Standing Committee Meeting of Women Parliamentarians on Population and the Status of Women
at Tokyo, Japan
Organized by AFPPD
- Discussed roles of women parliamentarians and status of women in Asia and decided to organize a Regional Conference in India.

1990

Mar. 12-14,

Asian Women Parliamentarians Conference on Population and the Status of Women
at New Delhi, India
Organized by AFPPD
- Participants from 25 countries

Mar. 22-23,

6th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development
at Jakarta, Indonesia
Organized by APDA-AFPPD
- Participants from 13 countries

Mar. 24,

7th Executive Committee Meeting
at Jakarta, Indonesia
Organized by AFPPD

Oct. 14,

8th Executive Committee Meeting
at Bangkok, Thailand
Organized by AFPPD

Oct. 15-18,

3rd General Conference of AFPPD
at Bangkok, Thailand
Organized by AFPPD

1991

Feb. 24,

9th Executive Committee Meeting
at Seoul, Korea
Organized by AFPPD

Feb. 25-26,

7th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development
at Seoul, Korea
Organized by APDA-AFPPD
- Participants from 10 countries

July

World Population Day Symposium
at New Delhi, India
Organized by AFPPD-IAPPD

Nov. 15,

National Parliamentarian Seminar on Environment
at New Delhi, India
Organized by AFPPD-IAPPD
- 60 parliamentarians and others attended

Nov.28,

10th Executive Committee Meeting
at Bangkok, Thailand
Organized by AFPPD

1992

Feb. 24,

11th Executive Committee Meeting
at Tokyo, Japan

Feb. 25,

Regional Seminar - 10th Anniversary of AFPPD and APDA
at Tokyo, Japan
Organized by AFPPD & APDA
- Participants from 16 countries
- Ceremony of memory of the late Mr. Takashi Sato, First Chairman of AFPPD/APDA and late Mr. Sat Paul Mittal, First Secretary General of AFPPD

Feb. 25-26,

8th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development
at Tokyo, Japan
Organized by APDA-AFPPD
- Participants from 16 countries

July 11,

The National Seminar on World Population Day
at New Delhi, India
Organized by AFPPD/IAPPD

Aug. 21,

12th Executive Committee Meeting
at Bali, Indonesia
Organized by AFPPD

1993

Feb. 25-26,

9th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development
at Hanoi, Vietnam
Organized by APDA-AFPPD
- Participants from 16 countries
- Theme: Population and Development in Asia: Activity and Strategy on Population and Development Towards International Conference on Population and Development in 1994

Feb. 27,

13th Executive Committee Meeting
at Hanoi, Vietnam
Organized by AFPPD

Oct. 24,

14th Executive Committee Meeting
at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Organized by AFPPD

Oct. 25-26,

4th General Conference of AFPPD
at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Organized by AFPPD
- Mr. Shin Sakurai was elected as Chairmen of AFPPD
- Kuala Lumpur Statement on Population and Development was Adopted. Participants from 31 countries

Oct. 26,

15th Executive Committee Meeting
at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Organized by AFPPD

1994

Jan.

National Seminar on Population and Development for Parliamentarians and State Legislators
at New Delhi, India
Organized by AFPPD/IAPPD
- 50 parliamentarians and state legislators attended

Mar.2 and 4,

16th Executive Committee Meeting
at Beijing, China
Organized by AFPPD

Mar. 3-4,

10th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development
at Beijing, China
Organized by APDA-AFPPD
- Participants from 15 countries
- Theme: Women in the 21st Century- Strategy for Prosperity and Peace I-

July

Information Seminar on World Population Day
At Hanoi, Vietnam
Organized by AFPPD/VAPPD
- the Deputy Speaker attended
- Parliamentarian and NGO's attended

Sep.2,

17th Executive Committee Meeting
at Cairo, Egypt
Organized by AFPPD

Nov. 8-9,

Asian Parliamentarians Conference on Environment Population and Development
at Shah Alam, Malaysia
Organized by AFPPD Malaysia/ AFPPD

1995

Mar.13,

18th Executive Committee Meeting
at Tokyo, Japan
Organized by AFPPD

Mar. 14-15,

11th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development
at Tokyo, Japan
Organized by APDA-AFPPD
- Participants from 13 countries
- Theme: Women in the 21st Century -Strategy for Prosperity and Peace II-

June

Indo-China Women Parliamentarians Conference on Women's Status and Reproductive Health
at Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
Organized by AFPPD/VAPPD

July 14-15,

AFPPD Standing Committee on Women Meeting
at Manila, Philippines
Organized by AFPPD
- Preparatory activities for UN Fourth World Conference on Women (FWCW)

Aug. 30,

19th Executive Committee Meeting
at Tokyo, Japan
Organized by AFPPD

1996

1996

National Parliamentary Seminar on Food Security, Population and Development
at New Delhi, India
Organized by AFPPD/IAPPD
- 50 parliamentarians attended

Feb.11,

20h Executive Committee Meeting
at Manila, Philippines
Organized by AFPPD

Feb. 12-13,

12th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development
at Manila, Philippines
Organized by APDA-AFPPD
- Participants from 15 countries
- Manila Resolution on Women, Gender, Population and Development was adopted

May

National Parliamentarians Seminar on Food, Security, Population and Development
at Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
Organized by AFPPD/VAPPD

May 1-2,

Special Meeting of the Executive Committee on Food Security and Population
at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Organized by AFPPD
- AFPPD Statement on Food Security and Population
- Preparatory activity of the FAO World Food Summit

Aug. 13-14,

Pacific Regional Parliamentarians Conference on Food Security, Population and Development
at Suva, Fiji
Organized by AFPPD
- Preparatory activity of the FAO World Food Summit

Sept 24,

21st Executive Committee Meeting
at Canberra, Australia
Organized by AFPPD

Sep. 25-27,

5th General Conference of AFPPD
at Canberra, Australia
Organized by AFPPD
- Canberra Statement on Food Security, Population and Development was adopted.
- office bearer for 1997-1999 was also elected.

Sept 27,

22nd Executive Committee Meeting
at Canberra, Australia
Organized by AFPPD

1997

Mar. 17,

23rd Executive Committee Meeting
at Kobe, Japan
Organized by AFPPD

Mar. 17-18,

13th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development
at Kobe, Japan
Organized by APDA-AFPPD
- Theme: Water Resources and Development

Sept 9-10,

National Parliamentarian Seminar on Population and Water Resources
at Beijing, China
Organized by AFPPD-China
- 50 NPC attended.

Dec 3-4,

National Legislative Seminar on Water and Population
at Manila, Philippines
Organized by AFPPD-PLCPD
- 50 members and staff attended.

Dec. 20-21,

National Parliamentarian Seminar on Water Resources and Population
at New Delhi, India
Organized by AFPPD-IAPPD
- around 100 legislators and parliamentarians attended.

1998

Jan 22,

National Women Parliamentarian Seminar on Population
at Bangkok,Thailand
Organized by AFPPD-Thai Committee

Feb 11-12,

National Seminar on Health for All -Reproductive Rights and Responsibility-
at Canberra, Australia
Organized by AFPPD-APGP Australia

Apr. 4-5,

14th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development
at New Delhi, India
Organized by APDA-AFPPD
- Participants from 16 countries
- ICPD and ICPPD plus 5 -Population Trends in Asia-

April 5,

24th Executive Committee Meeting
at New Delhi
Organized by AFPPD

Dec. 15,

25th Executive Committee Meeting
at Tokyo, Japan
Organized by AFPPD

Special Activities
AFPPD
– Asia and the Pacific –

Since 1973

JPFP conducts the Exchange Program (dispatching program and inviting program) of parliamentarians on Population and Development between Japan and other countries: Nepal, Sri Lanka, India, Thailand, Singapore, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Indonesia, China, the Philippines, Malaysia, Cambodia, Mexico, Columbia, Brazil, USA, Canada, Australia, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Ghana.
Organized by APDA/JPFP

Since 1974

JPFP conducts General Meeting, Executive Members' Meeting, four Subcommittees' Meetings (on International Cooperation on Population and Development; Domestic Issues; Gender Issues; and Global Issues) twice a year respectively.
at Tokyo, Japan
Organized by JPFP/ APDA
- JPFP: Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population.
- APDA acts as the JPFP secretariat.

1991

Feb. 12-15 and
Feb. 20-23,

State Level Legislators Orientation Seminar
at Madhya Pradesh and Maharastra, India
Organized by AFPPD-IAPPD

1992

Mar. 26,

State Level Legislators Meeting on Family Welfare
at Hyderabad, India
Organized by AFPPD-IAPPD
- More than 100 legislators attended

April. 20,

Gujarat State Legislator Meeting on Population and Development
at Gujarat, India
Organized by AFPPD-IAPPD
- 100 legislators attended

May 4,

Expert Group Meeting to Finalize Population Policy Amendments
at India
Organized by AFPPD-IAPPD
- 10 experts attended

June 9,

Rajasthan State level Legislative Seminar on Population and Development
at Rajasthan , India
Organized by AFPPD-IAPPD
- 150 legislators attended

1993

Sept.

Vietnamese Parliamentarians Visit to China
at China
Organized by AFPPD/VAPPD
- Sent a Delegation of Elected Representatives to China to Exchange Experiences and Information on Population and Family Planning Policies.

Sept 10-22,

Indian Parliamentarian Delegation visited Vietnam
at Vietnam
Organized by AFPPD/IAPPD

1998

July 13-14,

Canadian Parliamentarian Delegates visited Vietnam and Japan
at Vietnam & Japan
Organized by AFPPD-CAPPD
Supported by APDA

IAPG

– America Region –

1982

Dec.,

Western Hemisphere Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development
at Brasilia, Brazil
Organized by IAPG
- "Brasilia Declaration on Population and Development" was adopted
- The Brasilia Declaration became the blueprint for the formation of the IAPG.

1985

June 14-15,

First Conference of Caribbean Parliamentarians on Population and Development
at Heywoods Resort, Barbados
Organized by IAPG
- "Caribbean Declaration on Population and Development" was adopted

1986

Oct. 8-9,

Caribbean Policy Dialogue on Population and Development
at Ocho Rios, Jamaica
Organized by IAPG
- "Plan of Action" was adopted

1988

Apr. 26,

Youth Parliamentary Debate on Teenage Pregnancy
at Grenada
Organized by IAPG
- "Youth Parliamentary Resolution"
- Young people between the ages of 15 and 20 take on the role of parliamentarians in order to discuss solutions to the problem analyzed

May 4,

Youth Parliamentary Debate on Teenage Pregnancy
at Barbados
Organized by IAPG
- "Youth Parliamentary Resolution"
- Young people between the ages of 15 and 20 take on the role of parliamentarians in order to discuss solutions to the problem analyzed

Sep.21,

Youth Parliamentary Debate on Teenage Pregnancy
at St. Vincent
Organized by IAPG
- "Youth Parliamentary Resolution"
- Young people between the ages of 15 and 20 take on the role of parliamentarians in order to discuss solutions to the problem analyzed

Dec.7,

Youth Parliamentary Debate on Teenage Pregnancy
at St. Lucia
Organized by IAPG
- "Youth Parliamentary Resolution"
- Young people between the ages of 15 and 20 take on the role of parliamentarians in order to discuss solutions to the problem analyzed

1989

Feb.15,

Youth Parliamentary Debate on HIV/AIDS
at Trinidad
Organized by IAPG
- "Youth Parliamentary Resolution"
- Young people between the ages of 15 and 20 take on the role of parliamentarians in order to discuss solutions to the problem analyzed

Apr. 24,

Youth Parliamentary Debate on HIV/AIDS
at Guyana
Organized by IAPG
- "Youth Parliamentary Resolution"
- Young people between the ages of 15 and 20 take on the role of parliamentarians in order to discuss solutions to the problem analyzed

Nov.17,

"Youth Parliamentary Debate on HIV/AIDS"
at Dominica
Organized by IAPG
- "Youth Parliamentary Resolution"
- Young people between the ages of 15 and 20 take on the role of parliamentarians in order to discuss solutions to the problem analyzed

1990

Feb.2,

Youth Parliamentary Debate on HIV/AIDs
at Antigua
Organized by IAPG
- "Youth Parliamentary Resolution"
- Young people between the ages of 15 and 20 take on the role of parliamentarians in order to discuss solutions to the problem analyzed

Mar. 6-9,

Second Western Hemisphere Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development
at Quito, Ecuador
Organized by IAPG
- "Quito Declaration on Population and Development and Plan of Action" was adopted

Nov. 13,

Youth Parliamentary Debate on HIV/AIDS
at St. Kitts
Organized by IAPG
- "Youth Parliamentary Resolution"
- Young people between the ages of 15 and 20 take on the role of parliamentarians in order to discuss solutions to the problem analyzed

Nov. 28,

Youth Parliamentary Debate on HIV/AIDS
at Jamaica
Organized by IAPG
- "Youth Parliamentary Resolution"
- Young people between the ages of 15 and 20 take on the role of parliamentarians in order to discuss solutions to the problem analyzed

1991

June 25-27,

Conference on "Socio-Economic Development and Environmental Protection"
at Caracas, Venezuela
Organized by IAPG
- "Caracas Statement on Environment & Development" was adopted

Oct. 25-27,

International Conference on Population, Development and Quality of Living
at Montevideo, Uruguay
Organized by IAPG
- Discussion of urbanization problems in the Southern Cone countries and issues relating to the well being of youth.

1993

Dec. 6-7,

International Conference on Population and Development: Key Issues and A Call for Action
at Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
Organized by IAPG
- Caribbean Workshop in preparation for the ICPD

1994

April 28-29,

International Conference on Population and Development: Key Issues and A Call for Action
at La Paz, Bolivia
Organized by IAPG
- Andean Workshop in preparation for the ICPD

June 10-11,

International Conference on Population and Development: Key Issues and A Call for Action
at Managua, Nicaragua
Organized by IAPG
- Central America workshop in preparation for the ICPD

1995

Jan. 27-28,

The New Population Decade 1994-2004
at Belize City, Belize
Organized by IAPG
- "Recommendation for Action"
- Caribbean workshop to follow up ICPD

May 19-20,

The New Population Decade 1994-2004
at Panama City, Panama.
Organized by IAPG
- "Recommendation for Action"
- Central American workshop to follow up ICPD

Aug. 11-12,

The New Population Decade 1994-2004
at Lima, Peru
Organized by IAPG
- "Recommendation for Action"
- Andean workshop to follow up ICPD

Oct. 20-21,

Meeting of Parliamentarians: Challenges and Political Commitment
at Fortaleza, Ceara, Brazil
Organized by IAPG
- Follow up activity to the ICPD

Dec. 4-8,

Workshop for Journalists on Population and Development
at Sucre, Bolivia
Organized by IAPG
- Training workshop for journalists from Latin American countries on population and development issues.

1996

May 6-8,

Population, Environment and Social Development in Mercosur
at Asuncion, Paraguay
Organized by IAPG
- Follow up to the ICPD for the Mercosur countries

1997

Mar. 17-18,

Meeting for Central American Parliamentarians: HIV/AIDS: A Problem of Development
at Managua, Nicaragua
Organized by IAPG
- "Final report of the conference"

Oct. 30,

CAPPD- Canadian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development-Launching Meeting
At Ottawa, Canada
Organized by CAPPD Steering Committee/AFPPD
- AFPPD supports establishment of CAPPD.

Nov. 11-12,

Parliament and Society: working together to stop Family Violence and Violence against Women
at Caracas, Venezuela
Organized by IAPG
- Soon after the workshop was held, a new law on violence against women was approved.

1998

Aug. 11-12,

Basic Income: Discussions and Experiences
at Brasilia, Brazil
Organized by IAPG
- Training workshop for parliamentarians

Oct. 29,

CAPPD 1st Anniversary Forum
at Ottawa, Canada
Organized by CAPPD
- Adolescents Reproductive Health and Children's Nutrition
- Supported by AFPPD

Nov.11-13,

Youth Parliamentary Debate on Teenage Pregnancy
at Bahamas
Organized by IAPG
- "Youth Parliamentary Resolution"
- Young people between the ages of 15 and 20 take on the role of parliamentarians in order to discuss solutions to the problem analyzed

FAAPPD

– Africa and Arab –

1994

Sep. 3-4,

First Steering Committee for African and Middle Eastern Committee of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AMECPPD)
at Cairo, Egypt
- Launched Africa and Middle Eastern Regional Parliamentarians Activities.
- Steering Committee Chairman, Dr. Lavu Mulimba, Zambia
- Secretary General, Mr. M.T.S. Chinamasa, Zimbabwe

1995

Oct. 10-14,

2nd Steering Committee Meeting for African and Arab Parliamentarians Forum.
at Harare, Zimbabwe
Organized by AMECPPD
- AMECPPD change the Organized by to FAMEPPD (Forum of African and Middle Eastern Parliamentarians' on Population and Development)

1996

Jul. 22-23,

3rd Steering Committee Meeting for FAMEPPD.
at Aman, Jordan
Organized by FAMEPPD
- Finished preparation for the FAAPPD first conference.

1997

May, 1-3,

FAAPPD (Forum of Africa and Arab Parliamentarians' on Population and Development) Inaugural Conference.
at Cape Town, South Africa
Organized by FAAPPD
- FAAPPD was Officially Formed. FAMEPPD change the Organized by to FAAPPD.
- Chairman, Mr. Mustapha Ka, Senegal
- Secretary General, Mr. Samir Habashneh, Jordan

29.Sep. to 1st. October,	**Second Executive Committee Meeting.** at Dakar, Senegal Organized by FAAPPD

Europe Region

1984

15-16 June,

European Population Conference
at London, UK
Organized by UK All-Party Parliamentary Group on Population and Development
- To facilitate discussion and exchange of views between MPs from different European Countries; to discuss 1984 Mexico City UN Conference on Population. Recommended regular meetings of European Parliamentarians

1992

31 Jan.-1 Feb.,

European Agenda For Action on World Population- European Parliamentarians' Conference-
at London, UK
Organized by UK All-Party Parliamentary Group on Population and Development
- To Develop contacts between European Members of Parliament and clarify rules and responsibilities concerning population issues in developing countries
- Conference called for commencing of local, regional and international meetings to prepare for 1994 in Conference on population and development.

1995

26-27 May

European Parliamentary Forum for Action
at Brussels, Belgium
Organized by UK All-Party Parliamentary Group on Population, Development and Reproductive Health/European Parliament Working Group on Population, Sustainable Development and Reproductive Health
- Conference for European Parliamentarians: Implementing the Cairo 1994 program for population, reproductive health and development.
- Declaration of action calling for formation of parliamentary groups

1998

4-5 September

Voices from Parliaments in Europe: Looking towards Cairo +5
at Brussels, Belgium
Organized by IPPF European Network/ FPAs in Switzerland, Finland and Spain
- Workshop on overseas study tours: an analysis of experiences
- Declaration from parliamentarians from 4 continents calling for formalization of existing networks of parliamentarians.

International Activities

1984

Aug. 6-14,

United Nations International Conference on Population
at Mexico
Organized by United Nations
- UN Inter-governmental Conference
- Parliamentarians also attended as part of National delegations.

Aug. 15-16,

International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development
at Mexico
Organized by GCPPD and other agencies
- 149 Parliamentarians from 60 countries
- Chaired by Mr. Takashi Sato, Chairman of AFPPD

1994

Sep. 3-4,

International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (ICPPD)
at Cairo, Egypt
Organized by AFPPD and other groups
- Cairo Declaration on Population and Development Adopted
- 375 Parliamentarians from 117 countries
- Chaired by Mr. Moustafa K. Helmy, Chairman of Shoura Council (Senate) Egypt, Secreatry General Mr. Shin Sakurai, Chairman of AFPPD

Sep. 5-13,

International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD'94)
at Cairo, Egypt
Organized by UN/UNFPA
- ICPD Programme of Action was Adopted
- Large number of parliamentarians attended the UN sponsored conference.

1995

Mar. 4-5,

International Meeting of Parliamentarians on Population and Social Development (IMPPSD)
at Copenhagen, Denmark
Organized by AFPPD and other groups
- Copenhagen Statement of Parliamentarians on Population and Social Development Adopted; 75 parliamentarians attended.
- Supporting activities of the " World Summit on Social Development (WSSD)"
- Chaired by Mr. Shin Sakurai, Chairman of AFPPD

Aug. 31- Sep. 1,

International Meeting of Parliamentarians on Gender, Population and Development (IMPGPD)
at Tokyo, Japan
Organized by AFPPD and others
- Tokyo Statement on Gender, Population and Development
- Participants from 57 countries, a supporting activity for the UN Fourth World Conference on Women (FWCW).
- Chaired by Ms. Kayoko Shimuzu, Secretary General of JPFP

1996

Nov. 10-11,

International Meeting of Parliamentarians on Food Security, Population and Development (IMPFSPD)
at Geneva, Switzerland
Organized by AFPPD and others
- Geneva Declaration on Food Security, Population and Development was adopted
- Participants from 57 countries, support activity of the FAO World Food Summit
- Chaired by Mr. Shin Sakurai, Chairman of AFPPD

1998

Sep. 25,

1st Steering Committee Meeting for the organization of the International Forum of Parliamentarians on ICPD-Review
at Huge, Netherlands
Organized by AFPPD and others
- Preparatory activity for ICPD+5 to be held in Huge, Netherlands
- 20 parliamentarians and others attended

December 20-21,

2nd Steering Committee Meeting on International Forum of Parliamentarians on ICPD Review
at Tokyo, Japan
Organized by AFPPD and others

History of Parliamentarians Activities on Population and Development

Year	International Activities	AFPPD – Asia and the Pacific –	IAPG – America Region –	FAAPPD – Africa and Arab –	Europe Region
1981		Asian Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development			
		Steering Committee Meeting of the Asian Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development			
1982		APDA (Asian Population and Development Association-Foundation-) established	Western Hemisphere Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development		
		1st Executive Committee Meeting			
		1st Preparatory Steering Committee Meeting for Delhi Conference			
1983		2nd Preparatory Steering Committee Meeting for Delhi Conference			

Year	International Activities	AFPPD – Asia and the Pacific –	IAPG – America Region –	FAAPPD – Africa and Arab –	Europe Region
1984	United Nations International Conference on Population –Mexico-	2nd Executive Committee Meeting of AFPPD			European Population Conference
	International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development -Mexico-	1st General Conference of AFPPD			
		Asian Forum of Representatives on Population and Development			
1985		1st Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development	First Conference of Caribbean Parliamentarians on Population and Development		
		National Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development			
1986		2nd Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development	Caribbean Policy Dialogue on Population and Development		
		3 rd Executive Committee Meeting of AFPPD			
1987		3rd Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development			
		2nd General Conference of AFPPD			

Year	International Activities	AFPPD – Asia and the Pacific –	IAPG – America Region –	FAAPPD – Africa and Arab –	Europe Region
1988		4th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development	Youth Parliamentary Debate on Teenage Pregnancy -Grenada-		
		Proclamation of Population Milestone: The Day of the Three Billion in Asia.	Youth Parliamentary Debate on Teenage Pregnancy -Barbados-		
		4th Executive Committee Meeting	Youth Parliamentary Debate on Teenage Pregnancy -St. Vincent-		
			Youth Parliamentary Debate on Teenage Pregnancy -St.Lucia-		
1989		5th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development	Youth Parliamentary Debate on HIV/AIDS -Trninidad-		
		5th Executive Committee Meeting	Youth Parliamentary Debate on HIV/AIDS -Guyana-		
		6th Executive Committee Meeting	Youth Parliamentary Debate on HIV/AIDS -Dominica-		
		Standing Committee Meeting of Women Parliamentarians on Population and the Status of Women			
1990		Asian Women Parliamentarians Conference on Population and the Status of Women	Youth Parliamentary Debate on HIV/AIDS -Antigua-		

Year	International Activities	AFPPD – Asia and the Pacific –	IAPG – America Region –	FAAPPD – Africa and Arab –	Europe Region
1990		6th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development	Second Western Hemisphere Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development		
		7th Executive Committee Meeting	Youth Parliamentary Debate on HIV/AIDS -St. Kitts-		
		8th Executive Committee Meeting	Youth Parliamentary Debate on HIV/AIDS -Jamaica-		
		3rd General Conference of AFPPD			
1991		9th Executive Committee Meeting	Conference on "Socio-Economic Development and Environmental Protection"		
		7th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development	International Conference on Population, Development and Quality of Living		
		World Population Day Symposium			
		National Parliamentarian Seminar on Environment			
		10th Executive Committee Meeting			
1992		11th Executive Committee Meeting			European Agenda For Action on World Population- European Parliamentarians' Conference-

Year	International Activities	AFPPD – Asia and the Pacific –	IAPG – America Region –	FAAPPD – Africa and Arab –	Europe Region
1992		Regional Seminar - 10th Anniversary of AFPPD and APDA			
		8th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development			
		12nd Executive Committee Meeting			
1993		9th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development	International Conference on Population and Development: Key Issues and A Call for Action - Santo Domingo-		
		13rd Executive Committee Meeting			
		14th Executive Committee Meeting			
		4th General Conference of AFPPD			
		15th Executive Committee Meeting			
1994	International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (ICPPD) - Cairo-	National Seminar on Population and Development for Parliamentarians and State Legislators	International Conference on Population and Development: Key Issues and A Call for Action - La Paz -	First Steering Committee for African and Middle Eastern Committee of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AMECPPD)	

Year	International Activities	AFPPD – Asia and the Pacific –	IAPG – America Region –	FAAPPD – Africa and Arab –	Europe Region
1994	International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD'94) -Cairo-	16th Executive Committee Meeting	International Conference on Population and Development: Key Issues and A Call for Action -Managua-		
		10th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development			
		Information seminar on World Population Day which was attended by the Deputy Speaker			
		17th Executive Committee Meeting			
		Asian Parliamentarians Conference on Environment Population and Development			
1995	International Meeting of Parliamentarians on Population and Social Development (IMPPSD)	18th Executive Committee Meeting	The New Population Decade 1994-2004 -Belize-	2nd Steering Committee Meeting for African and Arab Parliamentarians Forum.	European Parliamentary Forum for Action
	International Meeting of Parliamentarians on Gender, Population and Development (IMPGPD)	11th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development	The New Population Decade 1994-2004 -Panama-		
		Indo-China Women Parliamentarians Conference on Women's Status and Reproductive Health	The New Population Decade 1994-2004 -Lima-		

Year	International Activities	AFPPD – Asia and the Pacific –	IAPG – America Region –	FAAPPD – Africa and Arab –	Europe Region
1995		AFPPD Standing Committee on Women Meeting	Meeting of Parliamentarians: Challenges and Political Commitment"		
		19th Executive Committee Meeting	"Workshop for Journalists on Population and Development"		
1996	International Meeting of Parliamentarians on Food Security, Population and Development (IMPFSPD)	National Parliamentary Seminar on Food Security, Population and Development	Population, Environment and Social Development in Mercosur	3rd Steering Committee Meeting for FAMEPPD.	
		20h Executive Committee Meeting			
		12th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development			
		National Parliamentarians Seminar on Food, Security, Population and Development			
		Special Meeting of the Executive Committee on Food Security and Population			
		Pacific Regional Parliamentarians Conference on Food Security, Population and Development			

Year	International Activities	AFPPD – Asia and the Pacific –	IAPG – America Region –	FAAPPD – Africa and Arab –	Europe Region
1996		21st Executive Committee Meeting			
		5th General Conference of AFPPD			
		22nd Executive Committee Meeting			
1997		23rd Executive Committee Meeting	Meeting for Central American Parliamentarians: HIV/AIDS: A Problem of Development	FAAPPD (Forum of Africa and Arab Parliamentarians' on Population and Development) Inaugural Conference.	
		13th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development	CAPPD- Canadian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development-Launching Meeting	Second Executive Committee Meeting.	
		National Parliamentarian Seminar on Population and Water Resources	Parliament and Society: working together to stop Family Violence and Violence against Women		
		National Legislative Seminar on Water and Population			
		National Parliamentarian Seminar on Water Resources and Population			

Year	International Activities	AFPPD – Asia and the Pacific –	IAPG – America Region –	FAAPPD – Africa and Arab –	Europe Region
1998	1st Steering Committee Meeting for the organization of the International Forum of Parliamentarians on ICPD-Review, The Hague	National Women Parliamentarian Seminar on Population	Basic Income: Discussions and Experiences		Voices from Parliaments in Europe: Looking towards Cairo +5
	2nd Steering Committee Meeting on International Forum of Parliamentarians on ICPD Review	National Seminar on Health for All -Reproductive Rights and Responsibility-	CAPPD 1st Anniversary Forum		
		14th Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development	Youth Parliamentary Debate on Teenage Pregnancy		
		24th Executive Committee Meeting			
		25th Executive Committee Meeting			

United Nations
Population Fund

IPPF

International Planned Parenthood Federation