Chapter VIII

Population

In 2003, the world’s population reached 6.3 billion. The population activities of the United Nations continued to be guided by the Programme of Action adopted at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and the key actions for its further implementation adopted at the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly in 1999. In December, the Assembly decided to devote one day during its fifty-ninth (2004) session to the commemoration of ICPD’s tenth anniversary. It also decided to devote a high-level dialogue to international migration and development in 2006.

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the largest internationally funded source of population assistance, was the lead UN organization for advancing the ICPD Programme of Action. It continued its work in reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, adolescent and youth needs, humanitarian assistance and partnership brokering. In 2003, UNFPA’s donor base grew to 151, comprising 149 donor Governments, the Mars Trust and the grass-roots campaign, the “34 Million Friends”. The Fund’s income from all sources increased to $397.9 million from $373.2 million in 2002 and programme expenditure decreased to $380 million from $410.1 million in 2002.

The Commission on Population and Development, at its thirty-sixth session, considered the central theme of population, education and development, and adopted a resolution on the subject. Other matters discussed by the Commission included financial resources to implement the ICPD Programme of Action, world population monitoring and the activities of the UN Population Division.


Follow-up to 1994 Conference on Population and Development

On 17 December, the General Assembly decided to devote one day during its fifty-ninth (2004) session to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) (decision 58/529).

Implementation of the Programme of Action

Commission on Population and Development action. In follow-up to the recommendations of ICPD (YUN 1994, p. 955), the Commission on Population and Development, at its thirty-sixth session (New York, 31 March–4 April) [E/2003/25], considered the central theme of population, education and development. That subject was one of the key actions for the further implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action, contained in resolution S-21/2 (YUN 1999, p. 1006), which was adopted in 1999 at the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly (ICPD+5) (ibid., p. 1005). The Commission also discussed the flow of financial resources for assisting in the implementation of the Programme of Action.

Population, education and development

As decided at its 2000 session (YUN 2000, p. 1007), the central theme for the Commission’s 2003 session was “Population, education and development”. For the Commission’s discussion of the theme, the Secretary-General submitted a concise report on world population monitoring, 2003 [E/CN.9/2003/2], which summarized recent information on selected aspects of population, education and development, examining the topics of: trends in population, education and development; education and entry into reproductive life; interrelationships between education and fertility; education, health and mortality; and education and international migration.

The report found that education played a key role in national development, besides being a prime component of individual well-being. Through education, individuals were enabled to have choices and empowered to make decisions in such areas as work, place of residence, family size, health and lifestyles, and personal development. The Secretary-General’s conclusions were summarized under the broad headings of interrelationships among population, education and development; expected changes in the school-age population and the achievement of internationally recognized goals; the impact of education on
patterns of marriage, onset of sexual activity, fertility and contraceptive use; relationships among education, health and mortality; and the role of education in international migration.

The Commission also considered the Secretary-General’s report on the monitoring of population programmes focusing on population, education and development [E/CN.9/2003/3]. The report highlighted progress towards implementing the ICPD Programme of Action as it related to education, population and reproductive health. It emphasized education as a human right and as a key factor in sustainable development, noting that reductions in fertility, morbidity and mortality rates and the empowerment of women were largely assisted by progress in education. Particular attention was paid to the education of young people, especially girls. Major challenges outlined in the report included illiteracy, eliminating gender disparities and reducing gaps in financing, in information and in the capacity to deliver quality education for all.

The Secretary-General concluded that education was the common denominator for managing such world challenges as globalization of production and trade, conflicts and increased ethnic rivalries, the widening digital divide and persistent problems of famine, pandemics and unequal resource distribution. Currently, about 1 billion young people between the ages of 15 and 24 needed to learn how to keep themselves healthy, provide for their families and find new jobs or remain employed. Using the vehicles of public statements and policy guidelines, the UN family and its partners should advocate the formulation of national education policies and programmes that maximized female enrolment and continuation at school, promoted the value of girl children to their families and society, and mobilized community participation in support of education for all.

The Commission, by a 4 April resolution [E/2003/25 (res. 2003/1)], which it brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council, requested the UN Population Division to continue its research and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to continue its programming on the linkages between population, education and development, including the relationships between population factors and the attainment of the goals of the 1990 World Conference on Education for All [YUN 1990, p. 765]. The Population Division was also asked to contribute its research findings to the implementation of the outcomes relevant to population, education and development of the UN conferences and summits. The Commission encouraged the Population Division to disseminate the results of its research, as a contribution to the greater understanding and awareness of the interrelationships among population, education and development. UNFPA was encouraged to continue its support for population, education and development programmes so as to accelerate the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action.

Financial resources


International migration and development

In response to General Assembly resolution 56/203 [YUN 2001, p. 993], the Secretary-General submitted a July report on international migration and development [A/58/98]. The report summarized activities relating to international migration undertaken by organizations within and outside the UN system, taking account of lessons learned and best practices on migration management and policies. Also discussed were the actual and potential UN system mechanisms to address related issues, including the possibility of convening a conference on international migration and development.

The report described activities of UN departments, programmes, funds, specialized agencies and other bodies in respect of international migration. It also gave an overview of activities undertaken by several intergovernmental organizations on migration issues, particularly in providing assistance to migrants.
The Secretary-General noted that the lessons learned and best practices regarding international migration management, as well as policy guidance emanating from them, had helped to address some of the consequences of international migration for development and to clarify aspects of the migration and development nexus that provided insights into ways of maximizing the development benefits of international migration.

In accordance with Assembly resolution 56/203, the Secretary-General again solicited the views of Member States on the possibility of convening a UN conference on international migration and development. Governments had been asked for their views on the issue in 1995 [YUN 1995, p. 1096], 1997 [YUN 1997, p. 1072] and 1999 [YUN 1999, p. 1020]. Of the 46 Member States and one non-member State that had responded, 25 were in favour of convening a conference and 22 expressed reservations.

A majority of the Governments in favour of a conference considered that it should be of a technical and analytical nature. It was envisaged that the proposed conference would debate major issues and deepen theoretical and empirical knowledge of the trends, causes and consequences of international migration on development. A few countries suggested that the conference could provide a forum for dialogue among concerned Governments, strengthen cooperation between countries of origin and of destination, and establish a system of collaboration to maximize the benefits of international migration. It was frequently suggested that the conference outcome could be the adoption of recommendations or principles, especially relative to migration policies in origin and destination countries or with respect to the establishment of an institutional framework to foster cooperation. Several Governments mentioned that the conference could be held in 2004 or 2005 and last from 2 to 10 days.

Most of the 22 Governments not in favour of a conference did, however, underscore the importance of international migration and development. Many considered that existing mechanisms, such as the Commission on Population and Development or a General Assembly special session, could provide appropriate forums for discussion of the issue. Some countries felt that the Organization’s financial constraints should be considered and one country stressed that a regional approach was more appropriate.

The Secretary-General stated that while the possibility of convening a UN conference on international migration and development remained uncertain, the international community’s expectation that the United Nations should address that global challenge in a comprehensive manner had grown. Areas in which the Organization was expected to play a key role included data collection, research, coordination of activities among concerned organizations, provision of advisory services and technical assistance, advocacy, and promotion of the ratification of international instruments related to international migration.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 23 December [meeting 78], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second (Economic and Financial) Committee [A/58/483/Add.3], adopted resolution 58/208 without vote [agenda item 95 (c)].

International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development adopted at Cairo, in particular chapter X on international migration, and the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, set out in the annex to General Assembly resolution S-21/2 of 2 July 1999, in particular section II.C on international migration, as well as the relevant provisions contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcome documents of the twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth special sessions of the General Assembly,


Recalling further its resolution 57/270 B of 25 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Reaffirming the obligations of all States to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, reaffirming also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and recalling the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

Recalling the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, which entered into force in July 2003,

Recalling also that heads of State and Government at the United Nations Millennium Summit resolved to take measures, inter alia, to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and their families, to eliminate the increasing acts of racism and xenophobia in many societies and to promote greater harmony and tolerance in all societies,
Recognizing that the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council should carry out their respective responsibilities as entrusted to them in the Charter of the United Nations, and that Member States should strive to achieve the goals set at the relevant United Nations conferences in the formulation of policies and the provision of guidance to and coordination of United Nations activities in the field of population and development, including activities on international migration,

Reaffirming also the need for the relevant United Nations organizations and other international organizations to enhance their financial and technical support to developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, to foster migration that contributes to development,

Taking note of the views of Member States on the question of convening a United Nations conference on international migration, its scope, form and agenda, and noting the low number of respondents to the survey of the Secretariat, and in this context inviting the Secretary-General to continue considering the issue,

Noting the work undertaken under the International Migration Policy Programme by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the International Organization for Migration and the United Nations Population Fund, in partnership with the International Labour Office, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and other relevant international and regional institutions, with a view to strengthening the capacity of Governments to manage migration flows at the national and regional levels and thus foster greater cooperation among States towards orderly migration,

Aware that, among other important factors, both domestic and international, the widening economic and social gap between and among many countries and the marginalization of some countries in the global economy, due in part to the uneven impact of the benefits of globalization and liberalization, have contributed to large flows of people between and among countries and to the intensification of the complex phenomenon of international migration,

Aware also that, in spite of the existence of an already established body of principles, there is a need to enhance international cooperation on migration issues and make further efforts, including through appropriate mechanisms, to ensure that the human rights and dignity of all migrants and their families, in particular of women migrant workers, are respected and protected,

Taking note of the rights of all migrants and their obligation to respect national legislation, including legislation on migration,

Noting that an overall commitment to multiculturalism helps to provide a context for the effective integration of migrants, preventing and combating discrimination and promoting solidarity and tolerance in receiving societies,

Recognizing the need for further studies and analyses of the effects of the movements of highly skilled migrant workers and those with advanced education on economic and social development in developing countries, and emphasizing the need for further studies and analysis of the effects of those movements on development in the context of globalization,

Noting the importance of remittances by migrant workers, which for many countries are one of the major sources of foreign exchange and can make an important contribution to developmental potential, and stressing the need to consider the various dimensions of this issue in a sustainable development perspective,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
2. Urges Member States and the United Nations system to continue strengthening international cooperation and arrangements at all levels in the area of international migration and development in order to address all aspects of migration and to maximize the benefits of international migration to all those concerned;
3. Calls upon all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, within their continuing mandated activities, to continue to address the issue of international migration and development, with a view to integrating migration issues, including a gender perspective and cultural diversity, in a more coherent way within the broader context of the implementation of agreed economic and social development goals and respect for all human rights;
4. Requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, to continue convening meetings, as necessary, in order to coordinate their activities regarding international migration, and to collect information to assist States in identifying critical issues and discussing future steps;
5. Takes note of the initiatives undertaken by Member States to continue to identify the many dimensions of international migration and development in order to better understand international migration processes and their linkages with globalization and development, to address the issues related to international migration, to analyse the gaps and shortcomings in the current approaches, to maximize the benefits of international migration and to strengthen international, regional and subregional cooperation;
6. Encourages Governments of countries of origin, countries of transit and countries of destination to increase cooperation on issues related to migration, and notes with appreciation the numerous meetings and conferences convened relating to migration and development, in particular in the context of regional cooperation;
7. Invites Governments, with the assistance of the international community, where appropriate, to seek to make the option of remaining in one’s country viable for all people, in particular through efforts to achieve sustainable development, leading to a better economic balance between developed and developing countries;
8. Requests the Secretary-General, as an exception, to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth instead of its sixtieth session on the implementation of the present resolution, which, inter alia, provides an update of the results of relevant activities within the United Nations system and of United Nations organizations and other international organizations;

Taking note of the commitment to promote the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all people, in particular of migrants and their families, and the promotion of the work of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Population Fund, in partnership with the International Labour Office, the International Organization for Migration and the United Nations Development Programme, at the global, regional and national levels, the importance of cooperation with other relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, and the obligation of States to respect national legislation, including legislation on migration.
Nations cooperation with the International Organization for Migration and other relevant intergovernmental organizations concerning international migration and development, including best practices on managed migration and policies to increase understanding and strengthen cooperation in the area of international migration and development among States and other stakeholders, reviews major initiatives of Member States and suggests action-oriented options for the consideration of the General Assembly;

9. Decide that in 2006 the General Assembly will devote a high-level dialogue to international migration and development, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the Assembly;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the organizational details of the high-level dialogue, bearing in mind that:

(a) The purpose of the high-level dialogue is to discuss the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development in order to identify appropriate ways and means to maximize its development benefits and minimize its negative impacts;

(b) The high-level dialogue should have a strong focus on policy issues, including the challenge of achieving the internationally agreed development goals;

(c) Round tables and informal exchanges are useful for dialogue;

(d) The outcome of the high-level dialogue will be a Chairperson’s summary, which will be widely distributed to Member States, observers, United Nations agencies and other appropriate organizations;

11. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled “International migration and development”.

---

**UN Population Fund**

### 2003 activities

In her report covering 2003 [DP/FPA/2004/9 (Part I)] to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/UNFPA Executive Board, the UNFPA Executive Director described the Fund’s activities in programme priority areas and noted that assisting countries to achieve the ICPD goals [YUN 1994, p. 955], the ICPC+5 key actions [YUN 1999, p. 1065] and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) [YUN 2000, p. 51] was central to the Fund’s mission. She said that UNFPA was also committed to strengthening results-based management and organizational effectiveness, as it focused strategically on consolidating and building on its 18-month transition exercise that ended in December 2002 [YUN 2002, p. 1078].

The number of UNFPA donors grew to 151 in 2003, comprising 149 donor Governments, the Mars Trust and the grass-roots campaign called “34 Million Friends”. In 2003, the Fund’s regular income increased by 12.7 per cent to $295.1 million, following its efforts to attract larger contributions from major donor countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Contributions to related resources (trust funds, cost-sharing and other programme arrangements) amounted to $103.6 million.

The implementation of country and sub-regional programmes continued as the Fund’s core work during 2003. By programme area, the largest share of resources, 61.5 per cent, went to reproductive health activities; 19.8 per cent went to population and development strategies; 12.1 per cent to advocacy activities; and 6.7 per cent to multisectoral activities. The highest priority for allocation of assistance, 65.5 per cent, was for Group A countries (those most in need), which included all the least developed countries (see p. 867). By region, sub-Saharan Africa accounted for 36 per cent of programme assistance; Asia and the Pacific for 30.2 per cent; the Arab States and Europe for 13 per cent; and Latin America and the Caribbean for 7.6 per cent. Interregional and global activities accounted for 13.1 per cent of programme assistance.

UNFPA’s investment in reproductive health was intended to enhance women’s access to quality services and female-controlled methods and to promote male involvement. Activities encompassed reducing maternal mortality and morbidity, family planning and reproductive health commodity security.

HIV/AIDS prevention was another key component of the Fund’s work in 2003. The Fund focused on three core areas, namely, the prevention of HIV infection among young people, the prevention of HIV infection in pregnant women and comprehensive condom programming. It maintained its role as the convening agency in the two important areas of focusing on young people and condom programming and worked to strengthen UN partnership and collaboration. The Fund provided a strong presence in country-level theme groups on HIV/AIDS.

The needs of adolescents and youth in developing countries remained an urgent priority for UNFPA in 2003, particularly in the fight against poverty and HIV/AIDS. The Fund’s flagship publication, State of World Population 2003 [Sales No. E.03.III.H.1], stressed that HIV/AIDS had become a disease of the young, with half of all new HIV infections, and at least a third of more than 333 million new cases of curable sexually transmitted infections (STIs) each year, occurring in people aged 15 to 24. However, only a small percentage knew that they were infected and the majority were ignorant about how HIV was transmitted.
UNFPA continued to support efforts to expand information and education on reproductive health issues to young people.

UNFPA provided humanitarian assistance to more than 20 countries and territories. As part of the UN emergency response system, it supplied reproductive health kits valued at some $2.15 million to 59 emergency destinations. It provided support to conduct and facilitate rapid reproductive health assessments, train field staff and national counterparts, prepare project documents and consolidated appeals processes, advocacy, supply reproductive health kits and commodities, mobilize resources and conduct emergency and post-conflict programme evaluation. The Fund also contributed to the first-ever inter-agency global evaluation of reproductive health services. It led an evaluation of worldwide delivery of the Minimum Initial Services Package of reproductive health services to refugees, and an analysis of financial resource trends for emergency reproductive health programming.

Throughout 2003, UNFPA was involved in partnerships with a variety of development partners, working with civil society coalitions at the country level and collaborating with the New Partnership for Africa's Development (see p. 937), among others. It also continued to promote South-South cooperation as an integral strategy for implementing the ICPD Programme of Action goals, to focus on the incorporation of population dimensions into development policies and plans to address the overall goal of poverty reduction, and to support work on population dynamics and demographic trends.

Gender issues were mainstreamed throughout UNFPA’s programmes in both reproductive health and population and development areas. The Fund continued to address structural and cultural barriers in the context of a rights-based approach to development. At the inter-agency level, it worked to advance the Secretary-General’s human rights plan of action “Strengthening human rights-related United Nations action at country level: National protection systems and country teams”, while at the policy level it supported the approach to development. At the inter-agency level, it supported the multi-country human rights plan of action “Strengthening human rights-related United Nations action at country level: National protection systems and country teams”, while at the policy level it supported the development and enforcement of laws prohibiting all forms of gender-based violence.

By decision 2003/225 of 11 July, the Economic and Social Council took note of the annual reports of the UNDP Administrator and the UNFPA Executive Director to the Council [E/2003/13] and the Executive Board’s reports on its 2002 second regular session [DP/2003/1] and its first regular session in 2003 [DP/2003/9].

Country and intercountry programmes

UNFPA’s provisional project expenditures for country and intercountry (regional and inter-regional) programmes in 2003 totalled $176.4 million, compared to $203.6 million in 2002, according to the Executive Director’s statistical overview report [DP/FPA/2004/9 (Part I, Add.1)]. The 2003 figure included $140.5 million for country programmes and $35.9 million for intercountry programmes. In accordance with the procedure for allocating resources according to categorization of countries into groups, laid down in a 1996 UNDP/UNFPA decision [YUN 1996, p. 989] and updated in 2000 [YUN 2000, p. 1005], total expenditures in 2003 to Group A countries (those most in need) amounted to $92.1 million, compared to $116.5 million in 2002.

Africa. Provisional expenditures for UNFPA programmes in sub-Saharan Africa totalled $63.5 million in 2003, compared to $73.3 million in 2002. Most of those resources (60.4 per cent) went to reproductive health and family planning, followed by population and development strategies (25.8 per cent), multisectoral activities (8 per cent) and advocacy (5.8 per cent).

On 23 January [E/2003/35 (dec. 2003/6)], the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board approved country programmes for Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, the Comoros, Côte d’Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania and Nigeria. On 19 June [dec. 2003/21], the Board took note of the country programme outlines for Benin, Kenya and the Niger.

Arab States and Europe. Provisional expenditures for UNFPA programmes in the Arab States and Europe totalled $23 million in 2003, compared to $23.8 million in 2002. Most of the resources (71.4 per cent) went to reproductive health and family planning, followed by population and development strategies (17.7 per cent), advocacy (5.9 per cent) and multisectoral activities (5 per cent).

On 23 January [dec. 2003/6], the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board approved country programmes for Djibouti and Jordan.

Asia and the Pacific. Provisional expenditures for UNFPA programmes in Asia and the Pacific totalled $53.3 million in 2003, compared to $63.8 million in 2002. Most of the resources
(71.8 per cent) went to reproductive health and family planning, followed by population and development strategies (13.3 per cent), advocacy (10.6 per cent) and multisectoral activities (4.3 per cent).

On 23 January [dec. 2003/6], the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board approved country programmes for Bangladesh, China, India, Maldives, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste and the South Pacific region. On 19 June [dec. 2003/21], the Board took note of the country programme outlines for Afghanistan, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and Pakistan; and took note of the report on the implementation of UNFPA’s special programme of assistance to Myanmar [DP/FPA/2003/9].

**Latin America and the Caribbean.** Provisional expenditures for UNFPA programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean totalled $135.5 million in 2003, compared to $210.8 million in 2002. Most of the resources (54.8 per cent) went to reproductive health and family planning, followed by population and development strategies (28.6 per cent), advocacy (8.7 per cent) and multisectoral activities (8 per cent).

On 23 January [dec. 2003/6], the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board approved country programmes for Bolivia, Colombia, El Salvador and Venezuela. On 19 June [dec. 2003/21], it took note of the country programme outline for Cuba.

**Interregional programmes.** Provisional expenditures for UNFPA’s interregional and global programmes totalled $25.2 million in 2003, compared to $20.9 million in 2002. Of that total, 41.3 per cent went to advocacy, 34.5 per cent to reproductive health and family planning, 15 per cent to population and development strategies, and 9.3 per cent to multisectoral activities.

**Financial and administrative questions**

UNFPA’s income from all sources totalled $397.9 million in 2003, compared to $373.2 million in 2002 [DP/FPA/2004/15], comprising $292.3 million in regular resources and $105.6 million from other resources. Expenditures totalled $380 million in 2003, down from $410.1 million in 2002, comprising $270.8 million from regular resources and $109.2 million from other resources, resulting in a net excess of $21.5 million in regular resources and a net deficit of $3.6 million in other resources.

Contributions to regular resources increased in 2003 by 15.4 per cent ($38.4 million) to $288.5 million, continuing the trend of the preceding five years. Income to other resources decreased by 5.4 per cent ($5.9 million) to $103.6 million, which also continued a recent trend. Total expenditure decreased by 7.3 per cent ($30.1 million) to $292.3 million in regular resources and $105.6 million from other resources. Expenditures for UNFPA programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Programme expenditure decreased by 7 percent ($30.1 million) to $303.6 million in 2003, down from $343.3 million in 2002.

**2004-2005 support budget**

In a July report [DP/FPA/2003/11], the Executive Director submitted to the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board the estimates for the 2004-2005 biennial support budget, totalling $169.6 million (gross) and $155 million (net). The estimates were based on a resource framework of $750.6 million for total income.

The proposal provided for greater support to country offices by consolidating the cost of establishing a new typology for the Fund’s country offices and incorporating the resources needed to strengthen country offices in such areas as audit services, human resources management and the integrated Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system. It provided for growth because the higher income estimate of $584.1 million from regular resources was $39.1 million, or 7.2 per cent, higher than in the revised proposal for the 2002-2003 biennium [YUN 2002, p. 1081], despite the loss of a major donor’s contribution. It also provided cost containment for several operating costs that had been limited to their 2002-2003 levels or adjusted downward.

Commenting on the estimates for the 2004-2005 biennial support budget in August [DP/FPA/2003/12], the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) stated that the time had come to introduce results-based budgeting techniques in preparing budget estimates; requested that future UNFPA budget documents contain a separate annex indicating actions taken to implement previous ACABQ recommendations, as approved by the Executive Board; and expressed appreciation for the Fund’s efforts to increase resources.

On 10 September [E/2003/35 (dec. 2003/28)], the Executive Board approved gross appropriations of $169.6 million for the 2004-2005 biennial support budget and resolved that income estimates of $14.6 million should be used to offset the gross appropriations, resulting in estimated net appropriations of $155 million. It authorized the Executive Director to redeploy resources between appropriation lines up to 5 per cent of the appropriation to which the resources were redeployed; and additional extrabudgetary expenditures up to $3.8 million for the implementation of the ERP project.

**Multi-year funding commitments**

In May [DP/FPA/2003/6], the Executive Director submitted to the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board
updated estimates of regular and other resources for 2003 and future years. As at 28 February, 60 countries had submitted written pledges to UNFPA for 2003, of which only 15 were multi-year pledges.

In 2002, UNFPA exceeded its pledging target of 125 countries, reaching an all-time high of 136 donor countries by the end of the year: 36 from Africa, 33 from Asia and the Pacific, 32 from Europe, 20 from Latin America and the Caribbean, 19 from the Arab States, 1 from North America, and a private contribution from the Mars Trust in the amount of $1.1 million. Total contributions received from donor Governments and from the interest from the Mars Trust for UNFPA’s regular resources in 2002 amounted to $260 million. As at 28 February, $281 million had been pledged for 2003, including a projected interest receivable amount of $4 million; $63 million for 2004; $63 million for 2005; and $8,000 for 2006. Of UNFPA’s 15 major donors (those contributing $1 million or more), which together provided an estimated 95 per cent of the total contributions to regular resources, only five countries were in a position to make multi-year pledges.

UNFPA called on Executive Board members and the Fund’s donors to consider increasing their contributions for 2003 and future years and to ensure the early and timely payment of pledges. The Fund hoped that the increases in official development assistance (ODA) announced at the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development [YUN 2002, p. 953] would lead to increased contributions to UNFPA. On 19 June [E/2003/35 (dec. 2003/19)], the UNDP/ UNFPA Executive Board encouraged UNFPA to broaden its donor base; welcomed the contributions and commitments made by programme countries; encouraged all countries to commit to multi-year pledges and make early contribution payments; and urged them, in the spirit of the Monterrey Consensus [YUN 2002, p. 953], to increase regular (core) funding to UNFPA in order to secure a stable regular resource base.

Assessment of the 2000-2003 multi-year funding framework

In response to UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board decision 2000/9 [YUN 2000, p. 1005], UNFPA submitted a cumulative report on its first multi-year funding framework (MYFF) for 2000-2003 [DP/ FPA/2003/4 (Part II)], which outlined the Fund’s key contributions in assisting countries to implement the ICPD Programme of Action [YUN 1994, p. 953] and ICPD+5 key actions [YUN 1999, p. 1005] and in achieving the MDGs [YUN 2000, p. 51]; outlined the context in which UNFPA worked during the 2000-2003 MYFF period; described progress in achieving MYFF goals and outputs; discussed lessons learned in the implementation process; indicated steps taken towards results-based management; presented an integrated resources framework; and highlighted strategic considerations for the next MYFF cycle.

Although there was a lack of data for reporting on the MYFF goal indicators over such a short period of time, there had been a marked improvement in the availability and quality of data at the output level, and a notable increase in the recording and reporting of data at the country level. Continued efforts were necessary to build capacity in data collection and in monitoring and reporting programme results. Results-based management had led to the formulation of a common strategic direction and results-oriented approaches to processes and systems that were being implemented throughout UNFPA. Under the resources framework, the report updated income estimates; reported on resource mobilization; and indicated how programme funds were distributed, in accordance with Executive Board decision 2000/19 [YUN 2000, p. 1005].

The strategic considerations for the implementation of the next MYFF cycle (2004-2007) would place greater emphasis on shared goals and outcomes; accelerate progress towards MDGs; link programme support to national policy development and poverty reduction; reinvigorate work in population and development; promote gender equality and women’s empowerment; give special attention to the needs of adolescents and youth in the face of the HIV/ AIDS epidemic; increase access to reproductive health information and services, and reduce maternal morbidity and mortality; and implement results- and competency-based mechanisms in human resources management.

On 19 June [E/2003/35 (dec. 2003/17)], the Executive Board approved the strategic considerations for the 2004-2007 MYFF cycle; urged UNFPA to simplify and refine the content and format of the 2004-2007 MYFF; and requested the Executive Director to develop her proposal to report on the MYFF every second year, and to continue to hold open-ended informal consultations on the development of the 2004-2007 MYFF.

Audit reports

In an April report [DP/FPA/2003/3], the Executive Director described UNFPA's internal audit and oversight activities in 2002, stating that management audits had been carried out in 28 country offices, one Country Technical Services Team office, one division and one functional area at headquarters. Contracted audits were undertaken in 13 country offices. In addition, 542 audit reports covering 2001 activities for projects executed by Governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) were reviewed. Of 41 reports issued in 2002 (including 9 on 2001 audits), the level of internal controls and the compliance with financial and administrative requirements were found to be satisfactory in 14 offices. Twenty-two offices were rated partially satisfactory and five offices/divisions were deficient.

The UNFPA Office of Oversight and Evaluation analysed 20 midterm reviews of UNFPA-assisted country programmes undertaken during 2001-2002; conducted a policy application review of one country programme in the Latin American region; and continued to follow up on the implementation of recommendations of similar reviews conducted in previous years.

On 19 June [E/2003/35 (dec. 2003/21)], the Executive Board encouraged the Executive Director to take the necessary steps to address the issues contained in the report on internal audit and oversight and to report to the Board in 2004.

Technical Advisory Programme

In response to Executive Board decision 2002/3 [YUN 2002, p. 1083], the Executive Director submitted a report on the Technical Advisory Programme (TAP) monitoring and evaluation system for 2003-2005 [DP/FPA/2003/7].

TAP, an inter-agency arrangement through which UNFPA technical assistance was provided to countries in support of population and development activities, was established in 1992 and had evolved in terms of both its substantive areas of focus and its method of servicing country programme needs. TAP was a three-tiered arrangement: the first tier was composed of national and regional expertise; the second was a group of technical specialists assigned to multidisciplinary regional Country Technical Services Teams (CSTs); and the third was made up of Technical Advisory Services (TAS) specialists posted at the headquarters or regional offices of relevant UN agencies and regional commissions.

The monitoring and evaluation process had three components: CSTs would collect information on technical support activities; CSTs, along with relevant UN organizations, would analyse the collected information to identify strengths and weaknesses and make recommendations for corrective action—the analysis would also include midterm review findings that would assess the quality and usefulness of the TAP outputs; and an external and internal evaluation would be undertaken in the third year of the TAP implementation to assess its contribution to the MYFF goals and outcomes.


Delegation of formal authority on personnel matters

The Executive Director submitted a March report [DP/FPA/2003/5] on the delegation of formal authority to the Executive Director in matters concerning UNFPA personnel. Formal authority had resided with UNDP's Administrator since 1969 and remained there even after UNFPA was placed under the General Assembly's authority in 1972 by Assembly resolution 3019(XVII) [YUN 1972, p. 378]. The Executive Director stated that the delegation of authority to UNFPA, endorsed by UNDP, would improve the Fund's management, efficiency and accountability of personnel services. Although the change in delegation of authority would incur no direct financial implications or added costs, UNFPA would continue to make use of, and pay for, certain personnel services provided by UNDP. The cost of the personnel services assumed by the Fund would be offset by a corresponding reduction in the amount paid to UNDP.

In a May report [DP/FPA/2003/10], ACABQ endorsed UNFPA's recommendation on delegating formal authority in its personnel matters to the Executive Director.

On 17 June [E/2003/35 (dec. 2003/15)], the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board recommended to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, that formal authority in matters of UNFPA personnel be delegated by the Secretary-General to the Executive Director. By decision 2003/224 of 11 July, the Council took note of the Executive Board decision and made that recommendation to the Assembly. A 22 September Secretariat note [A/C.5/58/2 & Corr.1] drew the Fifth (Administrative and Budgetary) Committee's attention to the Council's decision.

By decision 58/555 of 23 December, the Assembly decided that formal authority in matters of UNFPA personnel should be delegated by the Secretary-General to the Fund's Executive Director.

UN Population Award

The 2003 United Nations Population Award was presented to Werner Fornos (United States),
President of the Population Institute, in the individual category, and to the Family Planning Association of Kenya in the institutional category. Mr. Fornos was selected for his outstanding contributions in the population field, primarily in advocacy. The Family Planning Association of Kenya was selected for its advocacy efforts to promote gender equality and to eradicate female genital mutilation.

The Award was established by General Assembly resolution 36/201 [YUN 1982, p. 792], to be presented annually to individuals or institutions for outstanding contributions to increasing awareness of population problems and to their solutions. In July, the Secretary-General transmitted to the Assembly the report of the UNFPA Executive Director on the Population Award [A/58/151]. By decision 58/352 of 23 December, the Assembly took note of the report.

Other population activities

Commission on Population and Development


The Commission adopted and brought to the Economic and Social Council’s attention a resolution on population, education and development [E/2003/25 (res. 2003/1)] (see p. 1086). It also decided that the special theme for its thirty-eighth (2005) session would be “Population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty” [dec. 2003/1] and took note of the documents it had considered [dec. 2003/2].

By decision 2003/229 of 21 July, the Economic and Social Council took note of the Commission’s report on its thirty-sixth session and approved the provisional agenda for its thirty-seventh (2004) session.

In preparation for the thirty-seventh session, the Commission’s Bureau held an intersessional meeting (Vilnius, Lithuania, 13-14 November) [E/CN.9/2004/2].

2003 UN activities

In a report on programme implementation and progress of work of the UN Population Division in 2003 [E/CN.9/2004/5], the Secretary-General described the Division’s activities dealing with the analysis of fertility, mortality and migration; world population estimates and projections; population policies and population ageing; population and development; monitoring, coordination and dissemination of population information; and technical cooperation in population. The report also highlighted the Division’s major accomplishments during the year.

The Population Division’s work in fertility and family planning analysis included the issuance of the World Fertility Report 2003, which presented data on fertility, nuptiality, contraceptive use and national policies with respect to fertility and family planning for 194 countries and various areas of the world. Work also progressed on setting up a fertility database, which would complement the Report.

On mortality and health, the Population Division organized a workshop on HIV/AIDS and adult mortality in developing countries (New York, 8-13 September) for specialists from African countries most affected by the epidemic. It discussed ways to improve communication, especially through the media; the social and economic effects of the epidemic; and opportunities and constraints in the use of demographic information as an advocacy tool.

On international migration, the Population Division organized the Second Coordination Meeting on International Migration (New York, 15-16 October), which discussed, among other issues, workers’ remittances; undocumented migration, with special attention to human trafficking; and international migration and security. The Division prepared and submitted to the General Assembly the Secretary-General’s report on international migration and development (see p. 1086).

With regard to population projections, the Population Division completed World Population Prospects: The 2002 Revision, which presented estimates and projections to the year 2050 and a new set of long-range projections, extending the projection horizon by country of the 2002 Revision to the year 2300. The Division held a technical working group meeting on long-range population projections (New York, 30 June) and an Ex-
pert Group Meeting on World Population in 2500 (New York, 9 December). The “2003 Revision of World Urbanization Prospects” was completed as a working paper and would be issued in 2004.

In the area of population policies, the Population Division completed “National Population Policies 2003”; a study on fertility, contraception and population policies; and a study on HIV/AIDS policies, “National responses to HIV/AIDS: a review of progress”. The United Nations Ninth Inquiry among Governments on Population and Development was finalized and sent to all permanent missions to the United Nations.

Other issuances included a report on living arrangements of older persons around the world, which was being finalized for formal publication, and a preliminary version of The Impact of AIDS. Work continued on the fourth version of the Population, Resources, Environment and Development database.

During 2003, the Population Division prepared the second quinquennial review and appraisal of the progress made in achieving the ICPD Programme of Action goals and objectives, to be considered by the Commission on Population and Development in 2004. It also continued to maintain and develop the Population Information Network (POPIN), a major channel for information dissemination.

The Population Division continued to implement a programme of technical assistance for capacity-building among population research centres in developing countries in the effective use of new information and communication technologies, particularly the Internet; and to maintain three web sites associated with the networks of population research and training institutions.

The Population Division’s technical cooperation programme launched an automatic e-mail announcement service for new publications and produced and distributed MORTPAK for Windows, the Division’s software package for demographic estimation. It convened an international panel of eminent specialists (Bangkok, Thailand, January) that developed a blueprint for a multi-stage research training programme on population ageing in developing countries and organized a briefing on its work for about 100 specially invited students from over 60 countries at the Population Association of America annual meeting (Minneapolis, United States, May).