Chapter VIII

Population

In 2004, the world population reached 6.4 billion, as compared with 6.3 billion in 2003. While the number of people was greater, the actual rate of increase declined, an indication that the world was beginning to witness the end of rapid population growth.

United Nations population activities continued to be guided by the Programme of Action adopted at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD). The year 2004 also marked the tenth anniversary of ICPD, and through various events, including the commemoration by the United Nations of the anniversary on 14 October, the international community reaffirmed its commitment to the ICPD Programme of Action.

The issue of international migration was considered by a number of organizations, both within and outside the UN system, as the Secretary-General reported, and the General Assembly recognized that they could contribute to the high-level dialogue on international migration and development. The Assembly encouraged countries of origin, transit and destination to increase cooperation on migration issues.

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) maintained its focus on goals in the areas of reproductive health, population development and poverty, and gender equality and women’s empowerment, as well as on HIV/AIDS, humanitarian assistance and adolescent and youth needs. UNFPA established an International Youth Advisory Board and launched the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS. Among other publications, it issued the results of its global survey, *Investing in People: National Progress in Implementing the ICPD Programme of Action 1994-2004*. In 2004, UNFPA’s donor base grew to a record 166 countries, and the Fund’s income from all sources totalled $506.1 million, compared to $397.9 million in 2003.

The Commission on Population and Development, at its 2004 session, reviewed, as its special theme, progress made in achieving the goals and objectives of the ICPD Programme of Action. Other matters discussed by the Commission included financial resources to implement the Programme of Action, world population monitoring and the activities of the UN Population Division. The Population Division continued to analyse and report on world demographic trends and policies and to make its findings available in publications and on the Internet.

Follow-up to 1994 Conference on Population and Development

Implementation of the Programme of Action

Commission on Population and Development action. In follow-up to the recommendations of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) [YUN 1994, p. 955], the Commission on Population and Development, at its thirty-seventh session (New York, 22–26 March and 6 May) [E/CN.9/25], considered as its special theme “Review and appraisal of the progress made in achieving the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action of the ICPD”. The Commission also discussed the flow of financial resources for assisting in the implementation of the Programme of Action.

Review of progress towards Programme of Action goals

The General Assembly, in its 1994 resolution 49/128 [YUN 1994, p. 963], had named the Commission on Population and Development as the body responsible for monitoring, reviewing and assessing the implementation of the Programme of Action. In January 2004, pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2003/229 [YUN 2003, p. 1094], the Secretary-General submitted [E/CN.9/2003/3] the second quinquennial review and appraisal of progress made in achieving the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action. The report provided an overview of population levels and trends; population growth, structure and distribution globally and by major regions; reproductive rights and reproductive health; health and mortality; international migration; and population programmes. The first quinquennial review on that subject was presented to the Commission in 1999 [E/CN.9/1999/PC/2].

The report stated that, with a world population of 6.4 billion, nearly all countries experienced in 2004 some reduction of fertility—the
main source of population growth—and that world population was increasing at a declining rate. Between 1994 and 2004, the average annual growth rate was 1.3 per cent, with the less developed regions growing more rapidly than the more developed regions (at annual rates of 1.6 per cent and 0.3 per cent, respectively), and the least developed countries at an even faster pace (2.4 per cent per year). By 2015, the world population was projected to reach 7.2 billion at an annual average growth rate of 1.1 per cent. During the 2004-2015 period, 104 countries, accounting for 41 per cent of the world population, were expected to exhibit growth rates lower than 1 per cent per year, and 52 countries, accounting for 14 per cent of the total population, were expected to experience growth rates above 2 per cent per year, of which 31 were less developed countries. Six developing countries accounted for about half of the annual population growth: India (31 per cent); China (13 per cent); and Pakistan, Nigeria, Bangladesh and Indonesia (about 4 per cent each). In 2004, the five most populous countries were China (1.3 billion), India (1 billion), the United States (297 million), Indonesia (223 million) and Brazil (181 million).

Population statistics indicated that the distribution of the world population was shifting towards the less developed regions and that rates of growth varied considerably. Africa was the fastest growing region, at a rate of 2.3 per cent annually, followed by Latin America and the Caribbean (1.5 per cent), Asia (1.4 per cent), Oceania (1.4 per cent), North America (1.0 per cent) and Europe (negative 0.02 per cent). The world fertility rate declined from over 3 children per woman in 1990-1995 to 2.7 children in 2000-2005. Among other trends, the report noted an increased world life expectancy, currently 66 years of age; an increased number of international migrants; rising school enrollment at all educational levels and declining illiteracy; increased growth of the older population, at a much faster rate than that of the child population; increased growth of urban agglomerations, with 49 per cent of the world’s population living in urban areas; and an increased number of internally displaced persons, the fastest growing group of uprooted persons in the world, largely as a result of environmental degradation, natural disasters, armed conflict and forced resettlement.

In regard to reproductive health issues, the report indicated that contraceptive use among couples had risen, indicating greater access to family planning; awareness of sexually transmitted infections as a threat to public health had increased, but incidences remained high with 340 million new cases worldwide in 1999; the HIV/AIDS epidemic continued to expand throughout the world; and more and more pregnant women sought antenatal care. It was expected that 65 per cent of the world population would achieve the Programme of Action goal of a rate below 50 deaths per 1,000 live births by 2000-2005. A total of 100 countries, representing 47 per cent of the world population in 2003, had met the goal of a life expectancy at birth greater than 70 years.

The report concluded that although much progress had been made in the implementation of the Programme of Action during the decade, it had not been universal, and, based on current trends, many countries might fall short of the agreed goals. Continued efforts to mobilize resources, strengthen institutional capacities and nurture partnerships would be required to achieve them.

Financial resources

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/124 [YUN 1995, p. 1094], the Secretary-General submitted to the Commission a report [E/CN.9/2004/4], covering ten years, on the flow of financial resources for assisting in the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action. The report examined trends in bilateral, multilateral and foundation/non-governmental assistance for population activities in developing countries from 1994 to 2002, and domestic expenditures reported by developing countries from 1997 to 2001. Although international population assistance rose in 2002 to $3 billion, up from $2.5 billion in 2001, and was expected to increase slightly in 2003, the ICPD goal of reaching $18.5 billion by 2005 appeared unlikely. The consequences of resource shortfalls included increases in unintended pregnancies, abortions, maternal morbidity and mortality and infant and child mortality, as well as the likelihood that ICPD goals would not be met.

International migration and development

As requested by the General Assembly in resolution 58/208 [YUN 2003, p. 1087], the Secretary-General, in September [A/60/325], submitted a report on international migration and development, providing an update on activities relating to international migration undertaken by organizations within the UN system and involving UN cooperation with relevant intergovernmental organizations. Those included the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Geneva Migration Group (GMG), an informal mechanism for the exchange of information among organizations, established in 2003 by the heads of the International Labour Organization...
The report also reviewed Member States’ obligations of migrant workers and members of their families (see p. 668), established in 2003 [YUN 2003, p. 676] to monitor implementation of the International Convention on Migrant Workers and Their Families (see p. 668), established in 2003 [YUN 2003, p. 676] to monitor implementation of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. Among 2004 activities were a high-level panel discussion on “International migration and migrants from a social perspective”, held by the Commission for Social Development (10 February, New York); the selection by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) of international migration as the special topic for its World Economic and Social Survey, 2004, a publication that provided an annual analysis of the state of the world economy and emerging policy issues; and the first session (1–5 March, Geneva) of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (see p. 668), established in 2003 [YUN 2003, p. 676] to monitor implementation of the International Convention on those rights [YUN 1990, p. 594]. The report also reviewed Member States’ initiatives to create a multilateral framework of cooperation for improving migration management and proposed action-oriented options of the United Nations for addressing the issue of international migration and development.

The report concluded that the response by the international community to the significant increase in international migration since the 1990s had been swift, and the UN system, in collaboration with relevant institutions and organizations, including IOM and GMG, had addressed a wide array of relevant issues. In addition, a number of government initiatives had given rise to several regional consultative processes, and the work of the United Nations on international migration would benefit from closer ties with those processes, particularly in obtaining inputs that would be useful in preparatory activities for the General Assembly’s high-level dialogue on international migration scheduled for 2006. The findings of the Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM), which met for the first time (Stockholm, Sweden, 26–27 February) and was expected to issue its report in mid-2005, would also benefit from consideration of international migration issues at the United Nations.

Communication. In a letter dated 5 April [A/59/73], El Salvador welcomed the Secretary-General’s initiative in December 2003 to launch GCIM, an independent body comprised of 19 Commissioners which was given the mandate to provide a framework for the formulation of a comprehensive and global response to the issue of international migration. El Salvador expressed its support for the work to be done by the Commission.

**General Assembly Action**

On 22 December [meeting 75], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second (Economic and Financial) Committee [A/59/485/Add.2], adopted resolution 59/241 without vote [agenda item 87 (b)].

**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 for 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 also its relevant resolutions, in particular resolutions 57/270 B of 25 June 2003, 58/190 of 22 December 2003 and 58/208 of 25 December 2003, in which it decided to devote a high-level dialogue to international migration and development during its sixty-first session, bearing in mind that 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,

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,

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 United Nations 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,

Noting also the ongoing efforts and recent activities within the United Nations system and the other intergovernmental activities and multilateral initiatives on international migration and development being undertaken, as well as the exchanges of information on the subject,
Recognizing 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,

Welcoming the adoption of the special theme of the thirty-ninth session of the Commission on Population and Development in 2006, which will be “International migration and development”,

Taking note of the views of the Member States on the question of convening a United Nations conference on international migration, its scope, form and agenda, 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,

Acknowledging the important contribution provided by migrants and migration to development as well as the complex interrelationship between migration and development,

Aware of the fact that all countries are impacted by international migration, and hence stressing the crucial importance of dialogue and cooperation so as to better understand the international migration phenomenon, including its gender perspective, and to identify appropriate ways and means to maximize its development benefits and minimize its negative impacts,

Realizing the benefits that international migration can bring to migrants, their families, the receiving societies and their communities of origin and the need for countries of origin, transit and destination to ensure that migrants, including migrant workers, are not subject to exploitation of any kind and the need to ensure that the human rights and dignity of all migrants and their families, in particular of women migrant workers, are respected and protected,

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,

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,

Recognizing that countries can be concurrently any combination of origin, transit and/or destination,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
2. Reconfirms that the Secretary-General will report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the organizational details of the 2006 high-level dialogue;
3. Recognizes the important contributions that international and regional efforts, including by the regional commissions, can provide to the high-level dialogue on international migration and development;
4. Invites appropriate regional consultative processes and other major initiatives undertaken by Member States in the field of international migration to contribute to the high-level dialogue;
5. Takes note of the establishment of the Global Commission on International Migration;
6. 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;
7. 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;
8. Invites Governments, with the assistance of the international community, where appropriate, to seek to make the option of remaining in one’s own country viable for all people, in particular through efforts to achieve sustainable development, leading to a better economic balance between developed and developing countries;
9. Reaffirms the need to adopt policies and undertake measures to reduce the cost of the transfer of migrant remittances to developing countries, and welcomes the efforts of Governments and stakeholders in this regard;
10. Requests the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to prepare a comprehensive overview of studies and analyses on the multidimensional aspects of migration and development, including the effects of migration on economic and social development in developed and developing countries, and on the effects of the movements of highly skilled migrant workers and those with advanced education;
11. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

UN Population Fund

2004 activities

In 2004, the international community celebrated a decade of steady progress towards implementation of ICPD goals since the 1994 conference in Cairo, Egypt [YUN 1994, p. 55]. Those goals were linked to the programme priorities of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). To mark the anniversary, government and civil society leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the ICPD Programme of Action at such events as the “Commemoration of the tenth anniversary of ICPD” (New York, 14 October), held in accordance with General Assembly decision 58/299, which called for an event during its fifty-ninth session [YUN 2003, p. 1085], and the second International Parliamentarians’ Conference on the Implement-
tation of the ICPD Programme of Action (Strasbourg, France, 18-19 October), following which parliamentarians and ministers from 90 countries issued the Strasbourg Statement of Commitment. Support for ICPD and the UNFPA mandate was also expressed by countries at regional meetings and at the 2004 sessions of the Commission on Population and Development and the General Assembly.

UNFPA published a global survey, *Investing in People: National Progress in Implementing the ICPD Programme of Action 1994-2004*, which confirmed progress towards ICPD goals. Among its findings, the survey noted that the percentage of couples in the developing world able to choose contraception had increased from 55 to 60 since the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action in 1994; infant mortality rates had dropped from 71 to 61 out of every 1,000 babies born; life expectancy in the developing world had risen from 61 to 63 years of age; and women and men in ever greater numbers had stood up against female genital cutting, rape, gender violence and other human rights violations. The survey identified areas for future action and the major challenge of UNFPA—to secure the political will and funding required to achieve the ICPD and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) [YUN 2000, p. 51].

**Report of Executive Director.** As requested by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/UNFPA [YUN 2003, p. 1090], the UNFPA Executive Director submitted her report covering 2004 [DP/FPA/2005/7 (Part I & Add.1, Part II)] in a new format, merging various parts of the annual report into a single performance-and results-oriented annual report that reflected the goals and outputs of the multi-year funding framework (MYFF). The report discussed implementation of the 2004-2007 MYFF (see p. 1083), the context in which UNFPA operated, and the strengthening of UNFPA's effectiveness. It described progress towards achieving three goals identified in the MYFF—universal access to reproductive health, the inclusion of population dynamics to promote development, and gender equality (see below).

The implementation of country and subregional programmes continued as the Fund’s core work during 2004. By programme area, the largest share of resources, 62.8 per cent, went to reproductive health activities; 21.6 per cent to population and development strategies; 9.6 per cent to programme coordination and assistance; and 6.0 per cent to gender equality and the empowerment of women. The highest priority for allocation of assistance, 66.7 per cent, was for Group A countries, which included all the least developed countries (see p. 852). By region, sub-Saharan Africa accounted for 35.2 per cent of programme assistance; Asia and the Pacific for 29.7 per cent; the Arab States and Europe for 12.9 per cent; and Latin America and the Caribbean for 9.5 per cent; interregional activities accounted for 12.7 per cent.

The Executive Director noted that UNFPA was operating in a changing environment. Many countries had implemented elements of the ICPD Programme of Action and, increasingly, population factors were being integrated into national development frameworks. Efforts were made to strengthen reproductive health policies, promote gender equality, and address reproductive health needs and rights. At the regional and country levels, UNFPA cooperated with other members of the UN country team in joint programmes and increasingly with other partners, bringing to the common agenda key population, reproductive health and rights, and gender equality issues. The March issuance of the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) Guidelines on Joint Programmes resulted in an increased number of UNFPA country offices engaging in joint programmes—activities with a common work plan among two or more UN agencies. Conflict, political crisis and natural disasters continued to affect the work of UNFPA, with new crisis situations emerging in eight countries during 2004, including those affected by the 26 December tsunami in the Indian Ocean (see p. 932). In those situations, UNFPA focused its assistance on ensuring access to reproductive health, prevention of violence against women and girls, and psychological counselling.

The Fund’s main publication, *State of World Population 2004* [Sales No. E.04.III.H.1], also took stock of achievements and challenges in implementing the ICPD Programme of Action. While noting that many developing countries had made great strides in putting the ICPD recommendations into action, it stated that inadequate resources and persistent gaps in serving the poorest populations were impeding progress, particularly in halting the spread of HIV/AIDS and providing family planning and reproductive health.

In 2004, the level of regular source mobilization for UNFPA reached an all-time high of $331.6 million and a record of 166 donor countries was achieved. Membership in the “million dollar club”—country offices that mobilized over $1 million for country programmes—almost doubled, rising to 17 members.

The Executive Director reported [DP/FPA/2005/7 (Part III)] that UNFPA had provided inputs for the preparation of a number of Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) reports and reviews. Of the seven reports issued by JIU in 2004, five were of interest.
for UNFPA operations, mostly dealing with administrative issues, and were shared with UNFPA managers for their information and consideration.


By decision 2004/232 of 12 July, the Economic and Social Council took note of the reports of the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board on its work during 2003 [E/2003/35] and at its first regular session of 2004 [E/2004/35]. The Council also noted the annual report of the UNFPA Executive Director [E/2004/5-DP/FPA/2004/2], which addressed the implementation of the Secretary-General’s reform programme, the provisions of the triennial comprehensive policy review and follow-up to international conferences and the MDGs.

**Communication.** In a letter of 17 February [A/59/91], Switzerland transmitted the summary of deliberations of the “European Population Forum 2004”, a high-level expert meeting (Geneva, 12–14 January) jointly organized by the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and UNFPA, which focused on the theme “Population Challenges and Policy Responses” and discussed, among other things, newly emerging population challenges.

**Reproductive health**

UNFPA, as it had done over the previous decade, invested more than two thirds of its financial resources in reproductive health. Appraisal of the ICPD goal of universal access to reproductive health showed varying progress both among countries and among population groups within countries. While the use of modern contraceptive methods was around 54 per cent in developing countries, such methods remained unavailable to large numbers of couples. Adolescent reproductive health emerged as a global concern, and the HIV/AIDS crisis worsened the mortality and morbidity situation in 53 of the most affected countries.

Increased numbers of UNFPA country offices were involved in various national partnerships, working to incorporate reproductive health in poverty reduction strategy paper (PRSP) processes, sector-wide approaches (SWAs) and MDG reporting. An analysis of 60 MDG reports and 29 PRSPs showed increased attention to the issues of reproductive health and gender. However, closer examination of the PRSPs revealed a lack of attention to adolescent sexual and reproductive health, gender-based violence and emergency obstetric care, a key strategy for averting maternal deaths. Among other signs of progress, 14 countries approved policies to increase adolescents’ access to services and 87 countries reported a legal minimum age for marriage, viewed as a means to reduce maternal mortality as young women were statistically at a higher risk of dying during pregnancy. UNFPA’s strategy also focused on addressing family planning and preventing sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV/AIDS. In its response to the epidemic, the Fund focused on the prevention of HIV infection among young people, the prevention of infection in pregnant women, and comprehensive condom programming, including advocating for increased condom use by sexually active young people. UNFPA also joined an existing partnership to work on the television company MTV’s “Staying Alive Campaign”, the largest global HIV/AIDS awareness-and-prevention campaign for young people. (For further information on UNFPA’s activities on HIV/AIDS, see Chapter XIII of this section.)

**Population development and poverty**

The UNFPA Executive Director, in her report covering 2004 [DP/FPA/2005/7 (part I)], stated that attempts to reduce poverty by addressing interactions between population dynamics, sustainable development and poverty had made only modest progress since 1990. The gap between rich and poor nations remained unacceptably wide.

In 2004, a number of countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America were at various stages of implementing population and housing censuses. As it had determined that the availability of relevant data was vital for planning poverty reduction strategies, UNFPA provided assistance for conducting censuses and for planning, mobilizing resources, analysing the data and disseminating the results in at least 13 countries. The number of country offices reporting national sex-disaggregated population-related databases rose from 50 in 2002 to 74 in 2004, with another 15 developing them. UNFPA intensified its advocacy efforts for incorporating population dimensions into national development plans, including PRSPs, and 43 country offices reported undertaking interventions to make population and poverty linkages. The Fund also continued to support the formulation, operationalization and implementation of national population policies.

**Gender equality and empowerment of women**

The UNFPA Executive Director stated that there had been notable progress in the last decade in female education, literacy and participation in civic life, in many countries and regions, but discrimination remained high in certain regions and countries, or in pockets of poverty or social marginalization within countries. In 2004,
UNFPA offices in 56 countries reported the existence of mechanisms to monitor and reduce gender-based violence, and 55 country offices reported the existence of protocols for managing the health consequences of gender-based violence, as compared to 19 offices in 2002. Civil society became more involved in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women, with a diversity of movements, alliances, coalitions, networks and multisectoral committees functioning in over 80 per cent of the countries where UNFPA had programmes in 2004. Many UNFPA country offices reported significant involvement in supporting efforts to eliminate discrimination against women and girls, particularly through training and building the capacity of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for advocacy.

Country and intercountry programmes
In January, the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board considered the proposed UNFPA intercountry programme for 2004-2007 [DP/FPA/2004/3], which was designed to help countries to implement the ICPD Programme of Action. The programme was consistent with the goals of the MYFF and was aligned with the new strategic direction of UNFPA that emerged from the Fund’s transition process, and focused on three programme areas—reproductive health, population and development strategies, and gender. The objective of the programme was to strengthen policy dialogue, development frameworks and programming processes in population.

On 30 January [E/2004/35 (dec. 2004/12)], the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board approved the proposed 2004-2007 intercountry programme, in the amount of $226 million, and requested UNFPA to develop a results-based management system for planning, monitoring and evaluating the programme. On the same date [dec. 2004/12], the Board took note of the review of the UNFPA intercountry programme for 2000-2003 [DP/FPA/2004/3/Add.1].

Report of Executive Director. UNFPA’s provisional project expenditures for country and intercountry (regional and interregional) programmes in 2004 totalled $221.9 million, compared to $176.4 million in 2003, according to the Executive Director’s statistical overview report [DP/FPA/2004/7 (Part I, Add.1)]. The 2004 figure included $181.6 million for country programmes and $40.3 million for intercountry programmes. Costs for administrative and operational services amounting to $6.4 million were included in programme expenditures. In accordance with the Board’s procedure for allocating resources according to its categorization of countries laid down in 1996 [YUN 1996, p. 989], total expenditures in 2004 for Group A countries (see p. 1079) amounted to $121.1 million, compared to $92.1 million in 2003.

Africa. Provisional expenditures for UNFPA programmes in sub-Saharan Africa totalled $78.1 million in 2004, compared to $63.5 million in 2003. Most of that amount (54.7 per cent) went to reproductive health and family planning, followed by population and development strategies (30.6 per cent), programme coordination and assistance (8.8 per cent) and gender equality and women’s empowerment (5.9 per cent).

On 30 January [E/2004/35 (dec. 2004/12)], the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board approved UNFPA country programmes for Benin, the Republic of the Congo, Kenya, the Central African Republic, the Niger and Sierra Leone. On 23 June [dec. 2004/25], the Board took note of the draft country programme documents for Angola, Burundi and Madagascar, and approved a two-year extension of the fourth country programme for Zimbabwe [DP/FPA/2004/13].

Arab States and Europe. Provisional expenditures for UNFPA programmes in the Arab States and Europe totalled $28.7 million in 2004, compared to $25 million in 2003. Most (64.8 per cent) was spent on reproductive health and family planning, followed by population and development strategies (18.8 per cent), programme assistance (11 per cent) and gender equality and women’s empowerment (5.5 per cent). On 23 June [dec. 2004/25], the Board took note of the draft country programme documents for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Romania, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

Asia and the Pacific. Provisional expenditures for UNFPA programmes in Asia and the Pacific amounted to $65.9 million in 2004, compared to $53.3 million in 2003. Most of those expenditures (69.2 per cent) went to reproductive health, followed by population and development strategies (18.6 per cent), programme coordination and assistance (7.3 per cent) and gender equality and women’s empowerment (4.9 per cent).

On 30 January [dec. 2004/12], the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board approved UNFPA country programmes for Afghanistan and Pakistan. On 23 June [dec. 2004/25], the Board took note of the draft country programme documents for Iran and the Philippines, and took note of the report on the implementation of UNFPA’s special programme of assistance to Myanmar [DP/FPA/2004/11].

Latin America and the Caribbean. Provisional expenditures for UNFPA programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean totalled $21.1 million in 2004, compared to $13.5 million in 2003. As in the other regions, most of the total (52.4 per cent) went to reproductive health and family
The report proposed new regulations to permit the PeopleSoft financial system (known as Atlas) and reflected the introduction of the MYFF and UN simplification and harmonization initiatives, which were the result of a review of financial regulations necessitated by the January introduction of the PeopleSoft financial system (known as Atlas). The report proposed new regulations to permit electronic signatures, approvals and authorizations in lieu of signed paper copies.

In another November report [DP/FPA/2005/5] on recovery of indirect costs for co-financing, the Executive Director proposed revisions to the recovery policy for indirect costs, by which the existing structure of multiple rates would be replaced with a single rate of 7 per cent charged to all non-core expenditures. The report proposed confirmation of the rate of 5 per cent for third-party procurement expenditures.

**ACABQ report.** In December [DP/FPA/2005/4], the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) considered the November reports of the UNFPA Executive Director (see above). It noted that the revisions of the financial regulations included the replacement of the “certifying” function by the “committing” function, establishing the approval to spend against a budget source; the replacement of the “approving” function by the “verifying” function, ensuring controls were in place before disbursing of funds; and the replacement of the “allocation” concept by the “budget” concept, used to control expenditures. Also, as authority had been delegated to UNFPA on managerial, financial and staff issues [YUN 2003, p. 1093], references to the UNDP Administrator had been removed from the regulations. ACABQ recommended that the Executive Board approve the revisions to the regulations and the proposed new regulations.

In regard to the Executive Director’s proposals on the recovery of indirect costs for co-financing, ACABQ noted that the basis for the review included the JIU recommendation that all organizations of the UN system review their indirect cost rates in order to harmonize whenever possible. The Committee further noted that in reviewing the cost-recovery rates, UNFPA examined the rates for the reimbursement of third party procurement services, calculated at 5 per cent of the value of goods procured, and confirmed its appropriateness. The Committee agreed that the rate of 7 per cent—proposed to be the one rate to be used to recover indirect costs for co-financed activities—was reasonable, and that the UNFPA Executive Director should be allowed to keep the indirect cost-recovery rate under review and propose amendments to avoid cross-subsidization, if necessary.

**Audit reports**

The Executive Director submitted to the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board a report [DP/FPA/2004/1] on follow-up action by UNFPA to recommendations by the Board of Auditors for the 2000-2001 biennium [YUN 2002, p. 1093]. On 30 Jan-
In a March report [DP/FPA/2004/6], the Executive Director described UNFPA’s internal audit and oversight activities carried out in 2003, including management audits of 16 country offices and one functional area at Headquarters; follow-up on the implementation of previous audit recommendations concerning two divisions at Headquarters; and contracted audits of nine country offices. In addition, 473 audit reports covering 2002 activities for projects executed by government and NGOs were reviewed. Of the 23 reports issued in 2003, the level of internal controls and the compliance with financial and administrative requirements were found to be satisfactory in seven offices. Eleven offices were rated partially satisfactory and four deficient. One report did not include a rating. The report also summarized the activities of the three new organizational committees, established to improve oversight and accountability: the Oversight Committee; the Management Committee; and the Programme Committee.

On 18 June [E/2004/35 (dec. 2004/17)], the Executive Board urged 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 2005. On 24 September [ibid., dec. 2004/39], the Board welcomed the proposed framework for future reports, as proposed in an August report on a framework for resolution of issues contained in internal audit reports [DP/2004/CRP8-DP/FPA/2004/CRP5].

Multi-year funding commitments

In May [DP/FPA/2004/10], the Executive Director submitted to the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board updated estimates of regular and other resources for 2004 and future years, in the multi-year funding framework (MYFF). As at 1 April, 60 countries had submitted written pledges to UNFPA for 2004, of which only 19 were multi-year pledges.

In 2003, UNFPA received regular contributions from a record 149 donor Governments. Total contributions received from donor Governments in 2003 amounted to $293 million, of which 16 major donors provided approximately 96 per cent. It was estimated that 17 major donors would account for approximately 97 per cent of total contributions of $322 million in 2004. Discussions were ongoing with donors to increase their regular contributions in order to broaden the base of support of the Fund’s regular resources.

The report concluded that the Fund’s 2003 income level increased substantially in comparison to 2002 due to the larger contributions from five major donors (Canada, Finland, Ireland, Norway and Sweden) and favourable exchange rates of the euro and other currencies against the US dollar. As resource requirements for regular resources for 2004-2007 amounted to $1.2 billion and UNFPA’s regular resources would need to exceed $300 million annually, it stressed that UNFPA should focus its resource mobilization efforts on increasing regular resources. UNFPA urged countries to increase their contributions and make timely payment of pledges to ensure a more predictable cash flow and stable income base.

On 23 June [E/2004/35 (dec. 2004/24)], the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board, taking note of the report, encouraged countries to commit to multi-year pledges and make early payments, and encouraged UNFPA to reduce its dependency on a few large donors and broaden its donor base.

Assessment of the 2004-2007 MYFF

At its January session, the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board had before it the UNFPA Executive Director’s report [DP/FPA/2004/4] on the Fund’s second multi-year funding framework (MYFF), covering 2004-2007. The report provided background information on the MYFF as the Fund’s medium-term strategic plan, lessons learned implementing the first MYFF, and the process used to develop the second MYFF. It described the two major components: the strategic results framework (SRF) that outlined the MYFF development goals, outcomes, indicators and strategies; and the integrated resources framework (IRF) that set out resource requirements for 2004-2007. The report also outlined how the Fund would monitor its progress in managing for results, and how it would report on results.

On 30 January [E/2004/35 (dec. 2004/7)], the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board endorsed the proposed 2004-2007 MYFF and welcomed the report’s focus on the three results areas of reproductive health, population and development, and gender as key requirements for poverty eradication. It affirmed that the MYFF was to serve as the main policy document of UNFPA, as well as a strategic resource and management tool. Approving the proposed IRF, the Board urged countries to make multi-year pledges. It requested the Executive Director to explore options for reporting on results in a harmonized manner. On 18 June [ibid., dec. 2004/20], the Board adopted the joint UNDP/UNFPA/United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) proposal for harmonized reporting on results under the MYFF process.

Report of Executive Director

In her report on implementation of the 2004-2007 MYFF [DP/FPA/2005/7 (Part I)], the UNFPA Executive Di-
rable data had also limited the discussion of pro-
capacity to track and report on results, UNFPA re-
gressed on indicators. To improve the Fund’s
overall progress. Lack of up-to-date and compa-
rable data had also limited the discussion of pro-
gress in managing for results, UNFPA identified
electronic financial and resources system to im-
prove the Fund’s accountability. To assess pro-
ductional capacities.

Due to issues of attribution and aggregation, the
and outcome indicators had been a challenge.
and in institutionalizing evaluation recommend-
dations. It also described initiatives taken to es-
tablish results-based planning, monitoring and eval-
uation systems and to develop related na-
tional capacities.

On 23 June [E/2004/35 (dec. 2004/25)], the Execu-
tive Board took note of the periodic report on
evaluation.

Technical Advisory Programme

In response to a 2002 Executive Board request
[YUN 2002, p. 1083], the Executive Director sub-
mitted in August [DP/FPA/2004/16] a mid-term re-
view of the UNFPA Technical Advisory Pro-
gramme (TAP), an inter-agency arrangement for
providing UNFPA assistance to countries for pop-
ulation and development activities. TAP constitu-
ted the UNFPA strategy to increase the effi-
ciency, effectiveness and impact of its technical
support in reproductive health, population and de-
velopment, and gender empowerment, and was composed of nine multi-disciplinary Country
Technical Services Teams (CSTs).

The report indicated that despite the brief
period of operation in 2003 and 2004 of the new
TAP programme, it was clear that the system was
changing in the intended direction and that the
CSTs were moving away from demand-driven and
project-oriented technical support towards
more strategic mission and non-mission support
focused on capacity-building, regional and
institutional-level analyses, and policy dialogue.
Progress was also made towards implementation
of the strategic partnerships programme, which
represented a departure from past inter-agency
arrangements, and the implementation by the
World Health Organization (WHO) of a project
on family planning, sexually transmitted infec-
tions and safe motherhood. However, the changeover had not been complete. The report
summarized actions taken to address the issues
raised in the midterm review, including the es-
tablishment of a working group to review the
work planning process and make recommenda-
tions to modify current practices; adoption of a

Programming process

In response to a 2001 Executive Board decision
[YUN 2001, p. 1000], the UNDP Administrator and
the UNFPA Executive Director submitted an April
implementing decision 2001/11 on the UNDP/UNFPA programming process (see p. 884).
On 18 June [E/2004/35 (dec. 2004/18)], the Executive
Board requested UNDP and UNFPA to determine
how to address the issue of the increased time
frame for developing country programmes in a
harmonized way and to report back to the Execu-
tive Board in 2005. On the same date [ibid., dec.
2004/19], the Board took note of the report on
UNDP/UNFPA experiences in joint programming
[DP/2004/30-DP/FPA/2004/8] and deferred consid-
eration of a decision to 2005.

Evaluation

In an April report [DP/FPA/2004/12], the Executive
Director provided an overview of UNFPA’s evalua-
tion activities, including progress during the
2002-2003 biennium in conducting and using the
results of evaluations and evaluative activities,
and in institutionalizing evaluation recommenda-
dations. It also described initiatives taken to es-
tablish results-based planning, monitoring and eval-
uation systems and to develop related na-
tional capacities.

On 23 June [E/2004/35 (dec. 2004/25)], the Executive
Board took note of the periodic report on
evaluation.
two-year timetable for programmable and time-bound activities in order to expand participation of the CSTs in key exercises; and the revision of previously defined parameters to standardize the operational definition of strategic support.

On 23 September [E/2004/35 (dec. 2004/28)], the Executive Board took note of the report and requested UNFPA to provide a further review in 2005 of the impact of the TAP programme against strategic goals as contained in the MYFF.

Security of personnel

The Executive Director submitted in July [DP/FPA/2004/14] a proposal to the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board on additional security requirements to safeguard UNFPA personnel and premises globally. Citing the attack on the UN office in Baghdad, Iraq, in August 2003 [YUN 2003, p. 346], the Executive Director stated that the security threat levels for UN operations worldwide had significantly increased. Consequently, she requested that the Executive Board grant her authority to access up to 4 per cent of the approved gross 2004-2005 regular biennial support budget in additional funding, i.e., a maximum of $6.8 million for additional protective measures, including: relocating UNFPA country offices to safer premises; enforcing compliance with the enhanced minimum operating security standards (MOPS); increasing the number of field security officers; meeting the increased malicious acts insurance policy premium and other insurance requirements; and establishing a security structure with four security advisers.

ACABQ consideration. In September [DP/FPA/2004/17], ACABQ considered the Executive Director’s request. The Committee indicated that such requests should not be based on a piecemeal approach, but preceded by a comprehensive and complete review of security arrangements. It endorsed all the measures proposed in the report, except the establishment of a basic security structure, which the Committee advised should await the submission of a comprehensive review of security arrangements to be submitted by the Secretary-General (see p. 1478) and any relevant decision by the General Assembly.

On 22 September [E/2004/35 (dec. 2004/27)], the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board endorsed the Executive Director’s proposal to grant her authority to access up to a maximum of $6.8 million and noted that the amount would be recorded as a reserve, disclosed in the financial statement and reported to the Board in the annual financial review. The Board took note [ibid., dec. 2004/41] of the ACABQ report.

UN Population award

The 2004 United Nations Population Award was presented to John C. Caldwell (Australia), Professor Emeritus of Demography of the Australian National University, in the individual category, and to the Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital in the institutional category. Professor Caldwell was selected for his significant contributions to demographic research, including demographic transition theory, the study of culture and mortality decline, family formation, sexual networking and the spread of HIV/AIDS; anthropological and qualitative approaches to demographic techniques of analysis; and the interaction of culture, managerial practice and family planning programme success. The Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital was selected for its achievements in providing services for women suffering from childbirth and related injuries and in offering a holistic package of rehabilitation services with the objective of reintegrating patients into society in a dignified manner.

The Award was established by General Assembly resolution 36/201 [YUN 1981, 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/59/160].

Other population activities

Commission on Population and Development

The Commission on Population and Development, at its thirty-seventh session (New York, 22-26 March and 6 May) [E/2004/25], considered as its special theme “Review and appraisal of the progress made in achieving the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action of the ICPD”, which was discussed in the context of the follow-up to the 1994 ICPD (see p. 1075). Documents before the Commission included the Secretary-General’s report reviewing progress in achieving ICPD goals [E/CN.9/2004/3] (see p. 1075); the report of the Commission’s Bureau on its intersessional meeting (Vilnius, Lithuania, November 2003) [E/CN.9/2004/2] [YUN 2003, p. 1094]; the Secretary-General’s report on the flow of financial resources for implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action [E/CN.9/2004/4] (see p. 1076); the Secretary-General’s report on programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population in 2003 [YUN 2003, p. 1094] and the

The Commission adopted and brought to the Economic and Social Council’s attention resolutions on the work programme in the field of population [E/2004/25 (res. 2004/1)] and on follow-up to the ICPD Programme of Action [res. 2004/2]. The Commission also reaffirmed that the special theme for its thirty-eighth (2005) session would be “Population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty” [dec. 2004/1]; decided to consider its methods of work at its 2005 session [dec. 2004/2]; and took note of the documents it had considered [dec. 2004/3]. It also decided that the special theme for its thirty-ninth (2006) session would be “International migration and development.”

By decision 2004/237 of 20 July, the Economic and Social Council took note of the Commission’s report on its thirty-seventh session and approved the provisional agenda for its thirty-eighth (2005) session.

In preparation for the thirty-eighth session, the Commission’s Bureau held an intersessional meeting (Lima, Peru, 16-19 October) [E/CN.9/2005/2].

2004 UN activities

In a report on programme implementation and progress of work of the UN Population Division in 2004 [E/CN.9/2005/9], 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 Division’s work in fertility and family planning analysis included the issuance of a wallchart entitled World Fertility Pattern 2004, which presented data on selected fertility indicators. According to the data, the number of countries with total fertility below replacement level increased fourfold between 1970 and 2000, with fertility levels below replacement in all developed countries, and the fertility decline accompanied by shifts in the timing of childbearing. In most developing countries, the mean age at childbearing declined as the fertility of older women fell, and in developed countries, the mean age at childbearing was rising as women postponed the beginning of childbearing. The Division also issued a CD-ROM entitled “World Contraceptive Use 2003”, and undertook a study on the prevalence of childlessness among women nearing the end of the reproductive lifespan.

On mortality and health, the Population Division developed a database and issued a CD-ROM containing key mortality indicators for two periods—the early 1970s and the most recent period for each country, according to data availability. The Division also prepared a report of the Workshop on HIV/AIDS and Adult Mortality in Developing Countries, held in 2003 [YUN 2003, p. 1094], which combined a technical meeting and a training activity for African officials working in the area of HIV/AIDS.

In the area of international migration, the Population Division organized the Third Coordination Meeting on International Migration (New York, 27-28 October), which focused on issues that might be considered by the High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, scheduled by the General Assembly for 2006. Participants exchanged information on recent activities of their organizations in the area of international migration and development. In addition to the issuance of a database, Trends in Total Migrant Stock: The 2003 Revision, and its contribution to part two of the World Economic and Social Survey, 2004, published by DESA, the Population Division prepared and submitted to the General Assembly the Secretary-General’s report on international migration and development (see p. 1076).

With regard to population projections, the Division issued the third and final volume of the 2002 revision of its biennial World Population Prospects, entitled Analytical Report. That volume analysed the results of the demographic estimates and projections for 228 countries and provided a view on demographic trends between 1950 and 2050. It predicted that the world population would grow from 6.1 billion in 2000 to 8.9 billion in 2050, with the population in the less developed regions rising at six times the rate of the developed regions (0.25 per cent annually). The Division published the results of the 2003 revision of world urbanization prospects [YUN 2003, p. 1995], in a publication and a CD-ROM, and made them available on the Division’s website (www.unpopulation.org). The final report of the Division’s new set of long-range projections, World Population to 2300, was also issued and made available online.

In the area of population policies, the Division published World Population Policies, 2003, which revealed that the most significant demographic concern of Governments was HIV/AIDS. Other concerns included low fertility and population ageing, in developed countries; and rapid population growth and infant, child and maternal mortality in developing countries. Evaluation and analysis of the United Nations Ninth Inquiry
among Governments on Population and Development were under way. Responses had been received from some 80 countries representing 80 per cent of the world population and the results of the quinquennial Inquiry would be incorporated into World Population Policies, 2005.

Population ageing was another area of research. The Division’s study on living arrangements of older persons around the world was due to appear in 2005. Based on census and survey data from more than 130 countries, the study provided comparative analysis of patterns and trends of the living arrangements of people aged 60 years or over. It showed that the majority of older persons in developed countries lived alone or with a spouse only, while in most developing countries, a large majority lived with children or other relatives. A new wallchart, Population Ageing 2005, was prepared for publication, which showed numbers of the older population, proportions currently married, living alone and in the labour force, the sex ratio of those aged 60 and over and aged 80 or older, and life expectancy at age 60 for men and women.

The Division issued the report entitled The Impact of AIDS and finalized the fourth version of the database on Population, Resources, Environment and Development. During the year, it prepared the latest edition of its annual monitoring report, which focused on population, development and HIV/AIDS, and continued to expand and update its website and to develop the Population Information Network (POPIN), a major channel for information dissemination. The Division’s automatic e-mail announcement service, established in 2003 [YUN 2003, p. 1095], had over 1,000 subscribers in 2004, and the Division continued to produce and distribute a software package for demographic estimation.

**Internal oversight**

In conformity with General Assembly resolution 54/244 [YUN 1999, p. 1274], the Secretary-General transmitted an April report [E/AC.5/2004/5] of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) on the in-depth evaluation of the population programme. The review concluded that there had been significant progress towards implementing the CPC recommendations [YUN 2001, p. 1328], including the dissemination of information through the Internet, improvements in the design and navigation of the POPIN website, the discussion in its reports of the Division’s technical procedures and methods, and consolidation of population activities into larger social and development subprogrammes. However, the report also indicated that there had been a decline in basic research and data collection in regional population data, and it stressed the need for financial support to the UN population research agenda.