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***Caribbean Plan of Action on Population and Development  
Follow-up to ICPD***

*REPORT*

*of*

*ECLAC/CDCC-UNFPA  
Caribbean Population and Development Meeting  
Follow-up to ICPD*

*3-5 May 1995, Nassau, Commonwealth of the Bahamas*

# CARIBBEAN POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT MEETING- FOLLOW-UP TO ICPD

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS 3-5 MAY 1995

The Caribbean Population and Development Meeting follow-up to ICPD was held in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas 3-5 May 1995. This meeting was convened by ECLAC/CDCC in collaboration with UNFPA and hosted by the Government of the Bahamas. The meeting, with more than 70 participants, served as the first subregional gathering since the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo September 1994. It brought together a wide cross-section of Government

officials from 18 countries<sup>1</sup>, representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Regional Institutions and International agencies .

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<sup>1</sup> Participating countries: Antigua and Barbuda; The Commonwealth of the Bahamas; Barbados; Belize; British Virgin Islands; Cuba; Dominica; Grenada; Guyana; Jamaica; Montserrat; Netherlands Antilles; St. Kitts; St. Lucia; St. Vincent and the Grenadines; Suriname; Trinidad and Tobago and The US Virgin Islands.

The Meeting was opened by the Honorable Minister of Health and Environment, Minister Theresa Moxey-Ingraham, who drew attention to the close linkages between population, poverty, patterns of production and consumption, and threats to the environment. The Minister acknowledged the important ICPD preparatory work accomplished by governments, especially their National Population Reports and the Caribbean Port of Spain Declaration on Population and Development, and identified the need for partnership and cooperation in implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action.

During the Meeting, government

delegates and NGOs examined the recommendations from the ICPD Programme of Action, the World Social Summit and the Preparatory document of the Fourth World Conference for Women, prioritized programmes and policies, considered action on the agreements and devised mechanisms for translation into national and subregional programmes. The meeting also gave government experts the opportunity to exchange experiences on the implementation of their post-ICPD activities.

Six areas were identified as priority for the Caribbean region: Migration; Interrelations between population and sustainable development; Population

policy; Adolescent fertility; Reproductive health and family planning; Advocacy

The meeting expressed the view that the Port of Spain Declaration reflected the positions and strategies of Caribbean governments on population and development comprehensively. Delegates reiterated their commitment to the recommendations in the document and agreed to build on it in the formation of their post-ICPD implementation action plan.

The final output of the meeting was the development of a Draft Caribbean Plan of Action on Population and Development, Follow-up to ICPD, for consideration and implementation by governments at both the national and

(information, education and communication) programmes. subregional level (attached).

In their discussions, delegates emphasized the uniqueness of the Caribbean subregion as reflected in the population and development-related special characteristics and needs of Caribbean small islands and coastal countries. The small population size, age-sex structure, distribution of the population and the volume and pattern of its migration movement all interrelate with the development process and have implications for investment and public expenditures.

It was felt that the consequences of the complex interrelations between population, development, social and cultural factors and the environment have resulted in emigration, deterioration of the environment, unemployment, lack of educational and training opportunities, inadequate health facilities and services, the erosion of the family structure, teenage pregnancy and the increasing incidence of sexually transmitted diseases. To effectively manage these complex relationships in the Caribbean, delegates recommended that particular attention be focussed on employment generation, access to human resource development, improving the status of

The meeting examined the impact

women, poverty reduction and alleviation programmes, land use, social equity and reproductive rights and responsibilities.

To this end, the need to introduce population policies and issues into development strategies to speed the pace of sustainable development was reiterated. In this regard, delegates recommended that governments strengthen existing capacities, improve intersectoral collaboration, encourage more research and data collection and establish appropriate institutional mechanisms for this purpose.

of international migration on the

development process, especially the reduction in production levels due to the flight of skills and capital as well as the severe burden that heavy immigration places on the social infrastructure of small islands. The importance of remittances and the contribution of return migrants to the recovery of capital and skill investments were acknowledged. Participants identified a set of action to encourage the retention and return of qualified human resources, divert remittances from consumption to investment, and encourage bilateral agreements to prevent excessive immigration. In addition, a special recommendation was made for the convening of a Caribbean regional workshop on

migration to address the issues of measurement, monitoring stocks and flows, policy and analysis.

Delegates called on governments to strive to make reproductive health accessible to all individuals of reproductive ages through the primary health-care system as soon as possible and no later than 2015. The meeting also identified the need to provide a full range of safe and reliable family planning methods, and quality services affordable and accessible to all who need and want them. Specific recommended actions included programmes for improving family planning counselling, information, education, communication and

services; treatment of reproductive tract infections, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and other reproductive

Special attention was devoted to the high rates of teenage pregnancy in the Caribbean region, the deleterious social, economic and health consequences for the mother, child, family and State and the linkages to poverty. Delegates noted the absence of a clear government policy or package of programmes sensitive to the needs of adolescents and recommended a wide range of intervention programmes to sensitize policy makers on the issues; increase and improve health and family life education to adolescents, teachers, parents; remove legal and regulatory barriers restricting

health conditions.

adolescents' rights and access to education, health and social services; and conduct more research and data collection for effective programme and policy formulation and implementation.

The important role of advocacy for achieving ICPD goals and implementing population and development programmes was emphasized. The meeting expressed dissatisfaction at the low level of commitment to the integration of population issues in planning, limited understanding of population and social and economic linkages, and insufficient data and

exchange of knowledge and experiences among Caribbean countries in the implementation of their population and development programmes. Specific action programmes were recommended to

Delegates also expressed concern that, despite their commitment to the ICPD Programme of Action, lack of resources, weak political will, especially insufficient government support at the highest level, could pose obstacles to its successful implementation. It is for this reason that the meeting called on the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community to give formal recognition to the role of population in the development process, provide support

increase awareness, achieve public and private sector involvement and support and ensure continuity in ICPD follow-up action through the strengthening of channels of communication among countries in the Caribbean region.

to efforts at national and regional implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action and place population and development issues as a regular item on the agenda of their meetings.



Issues	ICPD Recommended Action	CARIBBEAN SITUATION/RECOMMENDATION			
		Situation	Goals	Action	Responsibilities/ Resources govt ngo int'l./ reg.
Interrelationships between Population, Sustained Economic Growth and Sustainable Development	ICPD (para 3.5.....3.9)	<p>1. Population issues are now being slowly integrated into national development processes and programmes in some countries.</p> <p>2. Not all countries in the region are engaged in formally preparing macro development plans.</p> <p>3. The political environment affects the planning process.</p> <p>4. Insufficient population data available for meaningful population and development integration.</p>	<p>1. Ensure that population issues are the driving force in national development planning.</p> <p>2. Ensure an acceptable quality of life for all.</p> <p>3. Encourage all countries to prepare formal national development plans.</p> <p>4. Increase political commitment to integrating population concerns in national development process.</p> <p>5. Strengthen the involvement of all sectors in the population and development planning process.</p> <p>6. Improve accurate data collection and analysis for more accurate integration of population in development planning.</p>	<p>(i) All governments in the Caribbean region must undertake efforts for the implementation of the Port of Spain Declaration on population and development.</p> <p>(ii) Integrate population issues into the formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all policies and programmes related to sustainable development.</p> <p>(i) Political commitment to integrated population and development strategies should be strengthened through public education and information programmes.</p> <p>(i) Introduce a multisectoral approach to national development planning.</p> <p>(i) More research on economic, social and demographic interactions is needed. Socio-demographic data collection should be improved to facilitate more comprehensive understanding of the dynamics of the population and development</p>	

**INTERRELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN POPULATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

			7. Strengthen the knowledge base on the relationships between population and development for feeding into decision making in all sectors	process.  (ii) Strengthen the capacity of governments for incorporation of population considerations into development planning.	
Issues	ICPD Recommended Action	CARIBBEAN SITUATION/RECOMMENDATION			
		Situation	Goals	Action	Responsibilities/ Resources govt ngo int't./ reg.
Interrelationships between Population, Sustained Economic Growth and Sustainable Development (cont'd)	ICPD (para 3.29....3.32)  Not in ICPD document (only in POS-Declaration)	5. The benefits of the development process are not equitably distributed throughout the population.  6. There are no clear-cut policies, in some instances, regarding the use of land and other natural resources in relation to sustainable development.  7. There are inherent conflicts between some development policies and environmental concerns  8. Access to land by nationals is impeded in some instances by national development policies currently being pursued. Land is owned by the State, multinational companies or individuals and administered by real estate agencies. Indigenous people losing land symbolic of their values and family relationship with land.  9. International negotiations sometimes fail to take into account national needs, policies and goals.	8. Ensure proper development, management and use of all resources to achieve sustainability.  9. Review national land policies to integrate population issues directly linked to land matters.  10. Ensure that international agreements on trade and related assistance are mutually satisfactory to the	(i) Integrate demographic factors into environmental impact assessments.  (ii) Assess consumption and production patterns to determine their sustainability; inform the public on unsustainable patterns and develop and implement policies to modify unsustainable consumption and production patterns.  (i) National land policies already in place should be reviewed and amended to incorporate population issues which are directly linked with land matters. Legal instruments should be put in place to safeguard and preserve indigenous land values and regulate land administration so that population issues may be taken into account. Negotiations for development of all indigenous lands should be done in equal partnership with the indigenous owners and consideration of indigenous land values be included.  (i) Strengthen national and subregional capacity to negotiate favourable international agreements.	

**INTERRELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN POPULATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

			countries involved.		
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**NATIONAL ACTION - POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT POLICIES**

Issues	ICPD Recommended Action	CARIBBEAN SITUATION/RECOMMENDATION			
		Situation	Goals	Action	Responsibilities/ Resources govt ngo intl./ reg.
Population Policy	ICPD (para 3.15)	<p>1. Currently we plan for people without sufficient understanding of population dynamics and their implications for development planning purposes.</p> <p>2. Political environment often presents constraints to population policy formulation and implementation.</p> <p>3. Absence of a written explicit population policy in many countries of the subregion.</p> <p>4. Insufficient collaboration between relevant sectors (social, economic, cultural) and communities in population policy formulation and implementation activities.</p> <p>5. Limited experience exists on the part of development planners/policy-makers on integrating population issues into the development plan, and also in using the planning process to address population issues.</p>	<p>1. Increased political commitment to population policy issues.</p> <p>2. Development of appropriate policy guidelines.</p> <p>3. Development of population policies in all countries of the Caribbean region</p> <p>4. Establishment of effective institutional arrangements.</p> <p>5. Strengthening of capacities for population policy formulation and implementation.</p>	<p>(i) Develop and implement public education strategies to create awareness and obtain commitment at all levels of society.</p> <p>(ii) Resources should be secured for implementation of strategies.</p> <p>(i) Population policies should address:                      (a) elimination of poverty                      (b) human resource development                      (c) international trade &amp; assistance                      (d) child health &amp; development                      (e) gender equity issues                      (f) elderly</p> <p>(i) Ensure intersectoral involvement through the establishment of a broad-based process for the development and implementation of population policies.</p> <p>(ii) Establish institutional mechanisms, such as population units and councils.</p> <p>(i) Strengthen the institutional capacity to coordinate and implement policy formulation and implementation.</p>	<p>Responsibility is that of the government. However, it may be necessary to access international technical and financial resources to implement some of these actions. Governments must create an enabling environment for NGOs and the private sector to participate fully in the process.</p>
Issues	ICPD	CARIBBEAN SITUATION/RECOMMENDATION			

## NATIONAL ACTION - POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

Recommended Action	Situation	Goals	Action	Responsibilities/ Resources		
				govt	ngo	int'l./ reg.
	6. There is a lack of appropriately trained human resources for the formulation and implementation of population policies in many countries.					
	7. Inadequate databases restrict the ability to develop population policies and programmes with accuracy.	6. To strengthen capacities for research and data collection required for formulation, evaluation and implementation of population policies.	(iv) Multisectoral collaboration in the conduct of data collection, research, analysis and dissemination of information related to population policy implementation and formulation.  (i) Strengthen data collection capabilities and conduct relevant research and analysis required as inputs into policy development.			

**ADVOCACY FOR IMPLEMENTING ICPD PLAN OF ACTION**

Issues	ICPD Recommended Action	CARIBBEAN SITUATION/RECOMMENDATION			
		Situation	Goals	Action	Responsibilities/ Resources govt ngo int'l./ reg.
<p>Population issues impinge on every aspect of national development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· development planning</li> <li>· reproductive rights and reproductive health</li> <li>· adolescent sexuality</li> <li>· gender issues</li> <li>· attention to men's issues of marginalization</li> <li>· women's equality etc</li> <li>· International migration</li> <li>· urbanization and internal migration.</li> <li>· Research</li> <li>· Partnership with NGOs</li> <li>· environment</li> </ul>	<p>Ch XI (b) (para 11.11 .. 11.14)  (para 11.16 .. 11.18)</p>	<p>1. Low level of political commitment to integration of population into development planning.</p> <p>2. Lack of up-to-date knowledge and accurate data. Limited knowledge of data sources</p> <p>3. Lack of awareness of population issues and social and economic sectoral linkages. Such as:</p> <p>(a) Widespread poverty is a major challenge to development efforts; and there is the need to break the poverty-population growth cycle.</p> <p>(b) Environmental changes have direct consequences on the quality of life of people.</p>	<p>1. To increase awareness, knowledge, understanding and commitment at all levels of society so that families, couples, individuals, community leaders, non-governmental organizations, policy makers, government and international community, appreciate the significance and relevance of population-related issues, and take the responsible actions necessary to address such issues within the context of sustained economic growth and sustainable development.</p> <p>2. To ensure political commitment to population and development issues by national governments in order to promote the participation of both public and private sectors in the design, implementation and monitoring of population and development policies and Programmes.</p>	<p>(1) Development and implementation of Advocacy strategies.</p> <p><u>Specific</u> (a) Integration of population issues into agenda of CARICOM Heads of Government meetings. Presentation by Ministers sympathetic to population issues and their integration into development planning.</p> <p>(b) Developing strategies for sensitizing government ministers, permanent and parliamentary secretaries, cabinet at the national level re:</p> <p>(i) priority issues of ICPD at national level</p> <p>(ii) need for support of implementation of ICPD Programme of Action at regional level</p> <p>(iii) population and development linkages</p> <p>(iv) need for accessibility of media to information</p> <p>(c) Packaging of information for persons at public and private sector levels - making information sector-specific:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare user-friendly (concise, attractive) summaries on relevant issues by planning agencies in collaboration with local government information agencies.</li> </ul> <p>(d) Face-to-face meetings via: board meetings; weekend retreats (where resources allow); use of multi-media channels for presentations eg. video, flip charts, slides, graphics.</p>	<p>— — —</p> <p>—</p> <p>— — —</p> <p>—</p> <p>— — —</p> <p>—</p> <p>— — —</p>
Issues	ICPD	CARIBBEAN SITUATION/RECOMMENDATION			

**ADVOCACY FOR IMPLEMENTING ICPD PLAN OF ACTION**

	Recommended Action	Situation	Goals	Action	Responsibilities/ Resources govt ngo int'l./ reg.
		<p>(c) Changes taking place in the family due to unemployment; structural adjustment, migration, violence.</p> <p>(d) Rapidly increasing numbers of adolescents at working age</p> <p>(e) Increasing numbers in the aged population</p>	<p>3. To enhance the ability of couples and individuals to exercise their basic right to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children, and to have the information, education and means to do so.</p> <p>4. To encourage attitudes in favour of responsible behaviour especially in such areas as environment, family sexuality, gender and racial sensitivity, and reproduction.</p>	<p>(e). Enlisting support of media gate-keepers ie. Managing Editors, news, features and life-style editors, reports, specialists.</p> <p>(i) liaising of population IEC/Communication specialists with media personnel (training of these individuals to undertake this task)</p> <p>(ii) developing of media friendly information on ICPD and priority issues as identified by national Plans of Actions</p> <p>2. Development and Implementation of macro - and - micro level IEC programmes. Adopt a coordinated approach to IEC implementation</p> <p>(a) Conduct national audits where necessary, to determine agencies involved in IEC, and their institutional capacity with respect to personnel and finances.</p> <p>(b) Create macro-level IEC body for implementation at micro-level to facilitate coordination.</p> <p>(c) Develop overall national plans to be implemented at agency level based on priorities and resources.</p> <p>(d) Development of materials for multi-sector use.</p> <p>(e) Use of innovative strategies, based on thorough research to be implemented through multimedia channels - print and electronic, and folk media.</p> <p>(f) Networking - utilizing existing mechanisms to facilitate infusion of population into various social and economic sectors</p>	

**ADVOCACY FOR IMPLEMENTING ICPD PLAN OF ACTION**

Issues	ICPD Recommended Action	CARIBBEAN SITUATION/RECOMMENDATION			
		Situation	Goals	Action	Responsibilities/ Resources govt ngo int'l./ reg.
		<p>10. Need for continuity in follow-up action to ICPD and for the exchange and sharing of knowledge and experience among Caribbean countries in the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action.</p>	<p>5. To publish a regional newsletter on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>6. To collect data and information on population and development for carrying out IEC activities</p>	<p>(3) Setting-up of a Clearing House in ECLAC/CDCC for preparation and dissemination of information on national and regional level population and development activities.</p> <p>(i). Publication of Caribbean regional newsletter on Population and Post ICPD Activities.</p> <p>(ii). Countries to submit to ECLAC, on a quarterly basis, articles and materials on national ICPD follow-up activities.</p> <p><u>4. Research</u> Concrete steps to be taken by relevant bodies to allocate adequate resources to:</p> <p>(a) identify data and existing material</p> <p>(b) develop data banks/centres in strategic sectors (nationally and regionally) for easy access to data and information on key population and development issues.</p>	



**INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

Issues	ICPD Recommended Action	CARIBBEAN SITUATION/RECOMMENDATION			
		Situation	Goals	Action	Responsibilities /Resources govt ngo int'l./ reg.
A. Demographic	<p>Address the root causes of migration and create conditions to entice potential migrants to stay.</p> <p>Countries of origin should collaborate to promote voluntary return</p> <p>ICPD (para 10.2...</p>	<p>1. Emigration has a direct impact on the age, sex, occupational composition, ethnicity and culture of households.</p> <p>2. Emigration of the middle-aged results in a higher dependency ratio.</p> <p>3. Predominance of one sex among emigrants affects marriage rates and lowers fertility rates.</p> <p>4. Overall losses may lead to a reduced rate of population growth.</p> <p>5. Heavy migration may skew the population pyramid and raise the median age.</p> <p>6. Sustained immigration into islands may create minorities of voters.</p>	<p>1. To reduce the level of emigration.</p> <p>2. To control immigration in order to avoid undue negative impact.</p>	<p>(i) Make equitable access to better living conditions in the country of origin.</p> <p>(ii) Seek agreement for more control of immigration laws that directly impact on (small) countries from administering powers.</p> <p>(iii) Adopt policies and programmes to manage migration laws more efficiently.</p> <p>(iv) Conduct subregional workshops on various aspects of international migration measurement, monitoring flows and stocks, determinants and consequences, strategies and policies.</p>	
Issues	ICPD Recommended	CARIBBEAN SITUATION/RECOMMENDATION			

**INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

	Action	Situation	Goals	Action	Responsibilities/ Resources govt ngo int'l/ reg.
<p>B. Economic</p>	<p>ICPD (para 10.3.....10.8)</p> <p>Countries of origin should seek support of international organizations in promoting the voluntary return of skilled migrants.</p> <p>Countries of origin are encouraged to facilitate return migration by adopting flexible policies as incentives.</p> <p>Create sound economic policies and adequate banking facilities to foster inflows of remittances and their productive use for development.</p> <p>Promote monetary and economic policies to encourage investment.</p> <p>Utilise certain forms of temporary migration as means of improving skills of nations.</p>	<p>1. Loss of productive workers can adversely affect productivity and production levels.</p> <p>2. "Brain Drain" reduces domestic performance and causes efficiency losses.</p> <p>3. Flight of capital occurs with emigration.</p> <p>4. The flows of remittances are not actively encouraged or channelled into productive investment.</p> <p>5. Returning migrants can bring back capital, skills and knowledge for investment. But governments are not yet taking appropriate steps to facilitate the return of migrants.</p> <p>6. Permanent migration creates friction during economic downturns in countries of destination</p>	<p>1. To retain the most productive segment of the work force.</p> <p>2. To encourage the return of skilled personnel to reduce the impact of the "brain drain".</p> <p>3. To reduce capital loss of sending countries as a result of emigration.</p> <p>4. To divert remittances from consumption to investment.</p> <p>5. To create a climate that promotes investment for returning migrants wishing to invest.</p> <p>6. To make migration more temporary and less permanent.</p>	<p>(i) Sending countries should offer incentives and opportunities to encourage potential migrants to remain in their country.</p> <p>(ii) Remove the basic social inequities and economic disparities in sending countries.</p> <p>(iii) Reduce migration by offering incentives and opportunities; train productive workers for meaningful jobs, with increasingly higher wages and equitable access to better living conditions.</p> <p>(i) Create productive jobs with increasingly higher wages in sending countries.</p> <p>(i) Create conditions to increase domestic savings and use them for investment.</p> <p>(ii) Adopt exchange rates and banking regulations that would facilitate investment of remittances.</p> <p>(i) Develop bilateral and multilateral agreements with countries of destination that promote temporary rather than permanent migration.</p>	

**INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

Issues	ICPD Recommended Action	CARIBBEAN SITUATION/RECOMMENDATION			
		Situation	Goals	Action	Responsibilities /Resources govt ngo intl./ reg
C. Social welfare	Not addressed by ICPD  (para 10.17..... Address the root causes of undocumented migration	<p>1. In small island communities, heavy immigration severely strains infrastructure.</p> <p>2. Island ecosystems are particularly fragile and sensitive to drastic immigration increases.</p> <p>3. Archipelagoes are vulnerable to covert entry of undocumented workers.</p> <p>4. Heavy illegal immigration, puts a burden on meeting 'Convention of Migrants' Rights' provisions.</p> <p>5. Caribbean governments experience a high cost of delivery services to satisfy the basic needs of undocumented migrants.</p>	<p>1. To regulate immigration as communities' resources allow.</p> <p>2. To reduce the vulnerability of island chains to this sort of entry.</p> <p>3. To reduce the burden on small countries in meeting Convention's requirements.</p> <p>4. Reduce substantially the number of undocumented migrants.</p> <p>5. Secure funding from international organizations to assist with the provision of economic and social services in the host country.</p>	<p>(i) To adopt appropriate bilateral agreements to prevent excessive immigration.</p> <p>(i) To obtain international assistance to accelerate social and economic development of sending countries in the region.</p> <p>(i) Seek assistance from primary hemispheric receiving countries in addressing this important border issue.</p> <p>(i) Seek assistance in order to meet the conditions of the United Nations 'Convention of Migrants' Rights'.</p> <p>(i) Concerted international action to address the root causes of migration and its impact on the host country and society.</p> <p>(ii) Develop a regional initiative for bilateral agreements on migration with the primary countries of destination.</p> <p>(iii) To reach satisfactory and durable agreements on the return and reintegration of undocumented migrants to their country of origin.</p> <p>(i) Internationally funded joint projects for meeting needs for delivery of service.</p>	
Issues	ICPD	CARIBBEAN SITUATION/RECOMMENDATION			

## INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

	Recommended Action	Situation	Goals	Action	Responsibilities /Resources govt ngo int'l./ reg.
Rural/Urban Migration/ Urbanization		<p>1. "Brain Drain" from rural to urban areas.</p> <p>2. Increase in crime, environmental degradation, unemployment and social and economic degradation as a result of heavy rural urban migration.</p>		<p>(i) Research should be carried out on the root causes of rural/urban migration, i.e. the push/pull factors.</p> <p>(ii) Closer collaboration between governments and NGOs in the formulation and implementation of appropriate policies.</p>	

**ADOLESCENT FERTILITY**

Issues	ICPD Recommended Action	CARIBBEAN SITUATION/RECOMMENDATION			
		Situation	Goals	Action	Responsibilities /Resources govt ngo int'l./ reg.
<p><u>Adolescents Fertility</u></p> <p>I. Awareness Creation</p>	<p>Para 7.41...7.48 4.15, 4.17, 7.42</p>	<p>1. Limited awareness of adolescent reproductive health issues</p> <p>2. Weak political support for adequately addressing issues.</p> <p>3. Serious social barriers to facing up to the situation.</p> <p>4. Health and family life education programmes inadequate to deal with prevention and consequences.</p>	<p>1. Increase awareness and sensitize politicians, policy-makers, community and religious groups, funding agencies and the media to adolescent sexual and reproductive health issues.</p> <p>2. Greater public knowledge, understanding and commitment at all levels are vital to the successful implementation of intervention programmes.</p>	<p>(i) Use available research data to highlight the problem and social cost of the consequences of adolescent sexual and reproductive behavior via public fora, seminars/workshops, group and individual meetings. Utilise all forms of the media, especially those with a strong visual impact.</p>	<p>— — —</p>
<p>II. Family Life Education</p>	<p>Para 11.5 (c), 11.9-1, 11.20, 11.24</p>		<p>3. Increase and improve content of health and family life education programmes for adolescents, teachers, parents and guardians.</p>	<p>(i) Support and strengthen existing FLE and family planning programmes to include cognitive, attitude and behavioral training components. This should benefit children from primary school level and beyond.</p> <p>(ii) Introduce FLE into those schools where it is not taught.</p> <p>(iii) Ensure that FLE is age appropriate and is part of the school curriculum and timetable.</p> <p>(iv) Develop and strengthen existing community programmes for the teaching of FLE to youth/adolescents out of the school system and to parents and guardians e.g. Parenting Partners Manual.</p> <p>(v) Establish special centres for adolescents and recruit staff.</p>	<p>— — —</p> <p>— — —</p> <p>— — —</p>
Issues	ICPD	CARIBBEAN SITUATION/RECOMMENDATION			

**ADOLESCENT FERTILITY**

	Recommended Action	Situation	Goals	Action	Responsibilities /Resources			
					govt	ngo	int'l./reg.	
<p><u>Adolescent Fertility</u></p> <p>III. Reproductive Health Services</p> <p>IV. Research and Data Collection</p>	Para 7.41..7.48	5. Sexual and reproductive health services for adolescents are almost non-existent.	4. Provision of sexual and reproductive health services which are sensitive to the needs of adolescents.	<p>(i) Establish multipurpose centres in discreet locations to provide the adolescent with confidential access to counselling and medical services including reproductive health care.</p> <p>(ii) Retrain existing health personnel and select new personnel with special skills for working with adolescents and women.</p>	-	-	-	
	para 12.14, 12.2(c)	6. The existing data and research are inadequate for effective policy formulation, implementation and evaluation of intervention programmes for adolescent reproductive behaviour.	5. Conduct more research to assist in understanding the major social, economic and psychological problems faced by adolescents.	<p>(i) Conduct studies on the reproductive behaviour of the adolescent population.</p> <p>(ii) Carry out surveys where necessary.</p> <p>(iii) Conduct operational research.</p> <p>(iv) Programmes and policies should be flexible to allow for their evolvement based on research findings.</p>	-	-	-	
	4.2, 4.15, 4.17, 11.1, 11.3,11.8	7. The education of the adolescent is interrupted as a result of pregnancy.	6. The education and appropriate training of the pregnant adolescent should be continued.	(i) Establish intervention programmes which address the following: (a) problem-solving for the teenage mother, her family and her baby's father; (b) improving the young mother's self-image; and (c) advocacy for her return to the school system at an appropriate time. Such programmes must be geared towards the achievement of the young women's full potential.	-	-	-	
Issues	ICPD Recommended Action	CARIBBEAN SITUATION/RECOMMENDATION						
		Situation	Goals	Action	Responsibilities /Resources			

## ADOLESCENT FERTILITY

					govt	ngo	int'l./ reg.
<u>Adolescent Fertility</u> V. Resource Requirements		8. Limited financial resources exist for implementation of special programmes for adolescents.	7. To provide adequate funding and human resources to meet the requirements of programmes for adolescents.	(i) A recurrent budgetary allocation for adolescent programmes needs to be increased to an adequate level to meet the requirements of the programme.  (ii) Improve inter-sectoral collaboration for programme development and implementation.  (iii) Strengthen NGO participation.  (iv) Encourage the flow of information and the sharing of resources through networking at the intra-regional level.	—		
VI. Legislative Measures	Para 7.20, 13.3	9. Legislation is harmful and restrictive to adolescents' rights to access education, health and social services.	8. Remove legal and regulatory barriers which restrict the basic rights of adolescents.	(i) Review of legislation which may infringe on the human rights of adolescent females.  Areas for review:  (a) Adolescent mother and her return to school  (b) Review of age of compulsory education with a view to increasing the age to 18 years.  (c) Review legislation to enable adolescents to give consent to medical treatment under specific circumstances.	— — —	— — —	—

## REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS, REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING

Issues	ICPD Recommended Action	CARIBBEAN SITUATION/RECOMMENDATION			
		Situation	Goals	Action	Responsibilities/Resources govt ngo int'l./reg.
I. Reproductive Health Care	ICPD (para 7.6)  All countries should strive to make accessible primary health care and reproductive health to all individuals of reproductive ages as soon as possible or no later than the year 2015.	1. Primary health care services are being reduced.	1. To develop national plans to ensure access to sexual reproductive health information services as soon as possible, but at least by the year 2015.  2. To provide comprehensive reproductive health care for all individuals.	(i) Removal of legal regulatory institutional barriers to the provision of services by 2005.  (ii) Plans should be based on identified needs and seek to integrate neglected components into existing programmes via inter-sectoral coordination.  (iii) Advocacy for adequate budget allocation for reproductive health care through existing health care institutions and social services.	
II. Sexual health and prevention of STDs including HIV AIDS	ICPD (para 7.29) Reproductive health programmes, including family planning programmes, should include facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of common STDs including reproductive tract infections, as part of reproductive health for enhancement of life and personal relations.	1. Currently sexual health programmes are not integrated in many family planning programmes.	1. To provide services which respond to the changing reproductive and sexual health needs of Caribbean women and men throughout the life cycle and reflect the social, cultural, economic and demographic diversity of the subregion.	(i) Provide STD diagnostic tests and referral for treatment in family planning clinics and other services.  (ii) Quality, affordable condoms and confidential information on STD/HIV/AIDS prevention should become an integral component of all sexual, reproductive health services.  (iii) Media campaign to promote positive knowledge of sexual health.  (iv) Develop innovative educational programs.  (v) Promote gender equality in sexual health.  (vi) Remove social and legal barriers which impede provision of services to adolescents.  (vii) Protect women, youth and children from any abuse, including sexual abuse.  (viii) Condoms should be included in all essential drug lists.  (ix) Services should include STD detection and referral to higher-level services, and provide diagnosis where possible.	



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III. Women's Health and Safe Motherhood	<p>ICPD (para 8.20)</p> <p>1. Countries should strive to effect significant reduction in maternal mortality by the year 2015.</p> <p>2. Expand maternal health services.</p> <p>3. Strengthen commitment to women's health.</p> <p>4. Address unsafe abortion as a major public health concern.</p>	<p>1. Health and social services are severely affected by SAPs.</p> <p>2. Vulnerability of women's health in adverse economic situation.</p> <p>3. Unsafe abortion constitutes an recognized social health issue in the Caribbean.</p>	<p>1. To reduce maternal morbidity and mortality.</p> <p>2. To ensure access to safe motherhood information and services through the Primary Health Care (PHC) level to all the population, especially vulnerable groups.</p> <p>3. To ensure women's health and well-being.</p> <p>4. To prevent and reduce the number of unwanted pregnancies.</p>	<p>(i) Provide comprehensive maternal health services - safe motherhood programmes should include prenatal and post-natal care, trained assistance during delivery, nutrition, education supplements, prompt and accessible referral services for complications, delivery or abortion.</p> <p>(ii) Actively involve women in design and implementation of health policies and programmes.</p> <p>(iii) Ensure provision of appropriate information and services in order to prevent unsafe abortions and to ensure high quality of standards for abortion-related services for individuals and couples.</p> <p>(iv) Family planning information and services should be provided.</p>	
IV. Family Planning	<p>ICPD (para 7.14...7.16)</p> <p>1. All countries should take steps to meet the family planning needs of their population as soon as possible - seek to provide universal access to a full range of safe and reliable family planning methods.</p> <p>2. Family planning programmes should make significant efforts to improve quality of care.</p> <p>3. Provide accessible, complete and accurate</p>		<p>1. To provide a full range of family planning methods, services programmes which are affordable, accessible and available.</p>	<p>(i) Assess unmet needs for contraception.</p> <p>(ii) Strengthen programmes to provide universal access by 2015 to a full range of family planning methods at a primary case level.</p> <p>(iii) Family planning services to provide complete and reliable information on a full range of options for fertility regulation without coercion and ensure informed choice and consent.</p> <p>(iv) Programmes to be designed to address unmet needs in family planning.</p> <p>(v) Conduct contraceptive prevalence surveys every five years.</p>	

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information about various family planning methods.				
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IV. Family Planning (Cont'd)					
(a) Voluntary choice in family planning	ICPD (para 7.5) Use full means to support.	1. Services not available to all individuals and couples.	2. Put emphasis on the needs of undeserved.	(i) Establish unmet needs and provide service to: adolescents, migrants, displaced persons, other undeserved.	
(b) Good quality family planning services	ICPD (para 7.16) Assess extent of unmet needs	2. Need for standardizing and upgrading of services	3. To upgrade the quality of services.	(i) Promote awareness and encourage towards attitude providing highest possible quality of services; train staff and increase motivation for providing high quality services which should be available, accessible and contain complete and accurate information.	
(c) User-centered services	ICPD (para 7.17) Urge to institute systems for evaluation	3. Minimal evaluation re user-centered or user-friendly services in place	3. Install structural evaluations of clients perspective of services.	(i) Regular exit interviews and other means to get information from clients.	
(d) Mobilizing community support	ICPD (para 7.18) NGO should play an active role	4. Need for more promotional activity.	4. Promote activities for specific target groups.	(i) Develop strategies to incorporate gender sensitive and user friendly services. Identify target groups which need additional and special approach and develop innovative strategies especially for them.	
(e) Remove barriers	ICPD (para 7.19) Identify and remove barriers.	5. Legal and medical laws and socio-psychological barriers exist	5. Remove barriers.	(i) Analyze legal and medical laws, advocate change, analyze socio-psychological factors, disseminate the information and use for project proposals.	
(f) Promote reproductive health service	ICPD (para 7.21) Political and community leaders should play an active role.	6. There is a need for more complementary efforts, e.g. government and NGO.	6. Promotion of services in closer collaboration with government and NGO.	(i) Assessment of government and NGO needs and formulation of collaborative actions.	
(g) Funding for programmes				(i) Collaborative actions at national and international levels.	

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(h) Promote high quality post-abortion services		7. Controversial, not in focus in the region.	7. Getting the issue into focus and promoting services.	(i) Gather information and promote services.
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		Situation	Goals	Action	Responsibilities/Resources govt ngo int't./reg.
IV. Family Planning (Cont'd)  (i) Commitment of males  (j) Holistic approach towards clients  (k) Parents as sex educators		8. Low commitment, absence of data on socio-psychological factors.  9. Does not include a moral framework.  10. Parents have no training and in general do not act as sex educators.	8. Improve data collection for developing appropriate strategies to increase commitment of males  9. Develop a holistic approach including a moral framework.  10. Involve parents more in sex education.	(i) Training of health care providers, develop counselling skills in violence, STD, FP. Investigate relevant factors for male and female attitudes to men-women interactions.  (i) Formulate relevant moral framework and include this in the education material, training and the holistic approach towards clients.  (i) Training parents in sex education and parenting.	
V. Reproductive rights	ICPD (para 7.3) defines reproductive rights		11. Protect and promote sexual and reproductive rights.  12. To support and sustain all programmes.	(i) Develop and review national policies, programmes, services and laws to affirm and safeguard sexual and reproductive rights of individuals and couples,  (ii) Conduct national or other debates to clarify policy.  (iii) Identify human rights commissions or judiciary bodies which would be responsible for protecting sexual and reproductive rights.  (iv) Incorporate into national legislation the recognition of the right to health and sexual reproductive rights as human rights.  (v) Develop IEC strategies and public education programmes to create awareness of sexual and reproductive rights - to clarify and inform on issues.  (vi) Advocacy for adequate budget allocation.  (vii) To cover all above needs significant need	

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				for training and retraining of health workers to deal with new tasks and concepts.	
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I. Policy	ICPD Ch 11.5 (a and b)	1. Although the Standing Committee of Ministers of CARICOM have given a mandate that Family Life Education (FLE) be implemented in all the school systems, FLE is still optional and very much a 'soft curriculum area'.	1. To strengthen and institutionalize FLE in the school systems.	(i) All countries to develop clear policies and promote such policy to all sectors.  (ii) Ministries of Education to actively monitor implementation.	✓   ✓   ✓
	Ch. XI 11.5 (a)	2. The relevance of population-related issues to sustainable development and the benefits of including FLE in the education programs are not fully appreciated.	2. To sensitize education planners to importance and value of outcomes of FLE programs in reducing certain socio-economic costs.	(i) Organize awareness sessions for education planners to foster an understanding of the contribution of FLE both to improved health and the achievement of educational goals.	✓  ✓   ✓
II. Inter-Agency Collaboration	Ch. XI	3. There exists a duplication of programs and efforts; inefficient deployment of resources and curriculum overload.	3. To improve intra and inter-agency collaboration.	(i) Convene inter-agency meetings to assess needs, establish priorities and integrate interagency program planning.	

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		Situation	Goals	Action	Responsibilities Resources govt ngo int't./ reg.
III. Curriculum	Ch XI	<p>4. Need to update curriculum contents and reorient approach to achieve behavioural and attitudinal changes.</p> <p>5. FLE is still an optional subject area and considered a "soft curriculum"</p> <p>6. Schools are bombarded by too many disparate FLE components - "curriculum load"</p> <p>7. Career education commences too late.</p>	<p>4. To review existing curricula and revise to meet current needs.</p> <p>5. FLE to become part of the compulsory core of general education.</p> <p>6. To develop a conceptual framework for curriculum which adopts an integral approach.</p> <p>7. To assist children and youth to make better decisions about career which is important for self-esteem development.</p>	<p>(i) Solicit the involvement of Ministries of Health, Education, UWI, NGOs. International agencies to conduct the necessary workshops and seminars.</p> <p>(i) Ministers of Education to make a definitive policy decision.</p> <p>(i) Department of Curriculum Development within Ministry of Education to take action.</p> <p>(i) Curriculum Development Units to take action.</p>	<p>✓ ✓ ✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>
IV. Teacher-Training	Ch XI	<p>8. FLE is not institutionalized in the Teachers' Colleges. In-service training is ad hoc, and does not meet current needs.</p>	<p>8. To strengthen the delivery of FLE in Teachers' Colleges.</p> <p>9. UWI to offer a degree in FLE utilising UWIDITE inputs.</p>	<p>(i) Circulate the "Core Curriculum Guide" for strengthening FLE in Teachers' Colleges (Inter-agency Working Group- PAHO, UWI, UNESCO/CARNEID, Population Council).</p> <p>(ii) Policy decisions to be implemented in the Teachers' colleges.</p>	<p>✓ ✓</p> <p>✓ ✓</p>
Issues	ICPD Recommended Action	CARIBBEAN SITUATION/RECOMMENDATION			
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					/Resources govt ngo int't./ reg.		
V. Materials Production	Ch XI	<p>9. Effective implementation is being hampered by the lack of teaching and other resource materials both for teachers and students.</p> <p>10. Existing materials need to be more widely disseminated.</p>	<p>10. To produce appropriate teaching and resource materials for all levels.</p>	<p>(i) Secure funding to mount materials production workshops.</p> <p>(ii) Produce a range of materials which are 'user friendly' and age-appropriate for the school population.</p>	✓	✓	✓
VI. Program	Ch XI	<p>11. More attention needs to be paid to the evaluation of programs and identification of the indicators of success.</p> <p>12. The out-reach programmes for out-of-school youth, parents and communities need to be extended.</p> <p>13. Separate programs and family planning services should be incorporated into the programmes for adolescents.</p>	<p>11. To train FLE educators to conduct evaluation.</p> <p>12. To design and implement programs for more 'at risk' groups, parents and men.</p> <p>13. To provide separate services for adolescents, where possible.</p>	<p>(i) Conduct training workshops.</p> <p>(i) Review existing situation and identify starting points to extend programmes to more groups. Introduce more "child to child" programs.</p> <p>(ii) Exchange experiences among countries of successes and failures. Share FLE models.</p> <p>(i) Seek funding</p> <p>(ii) Establish special centres for adolescents and recruit staff.</p>	✓	✓	✓
Issues	ICPD Recommended Action	CARIBBEAN SITUATION/RECOMMENDATION					
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					/Resources govt ngo int'l./ reg.		
VII. Research	Ch XI	<p>14. Absence of relevant data needed to make decisions, develop and evaluate programs.</p> <p>15. There is a need for the conduct of status reports and analysis to discover why some programs succeed and others do not.</p>	<p>14. To conduct research on important adolescent issues and concerns required as inputs into curriculum development.</p> <p>15. Support and encourage program development and evaluation.</p>	(i) To conduct research on important adolescent issues and concerns required as inputs into curriculum development.	✓	✓	✓
VIII. Media	Ch XI	16. The positive potential of the media needs to be exploited. At present negative influences appear to predominate.	16. To engage the media, electronic and print, in positive ways to support the goal of FLE	(i) Organize sessions to sensitize media to the issues and concerns of children and youth.	✓	✓	✓

**FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION**

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN  
Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

**PRELIMINARY LIST TO ATTEND  
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**3-5 MAY 1995, NASSAU, BAHAMAS**

**Date: 15 March 1995**

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