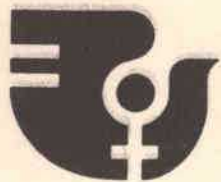




UNITED NATIONS



WORLD CONFERENCE  
OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR  
MEXICO CITY, 19 JUNE TO 2 JULY 1975

Distr.  
GENERAL  
E/CONF.66/BP/12  
9 April 1975  
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CONFERENCE BACKGROUND PAPER

Fundação Cuidar o Futuro  
THE CONTRIBUTION OF FOOD AID TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF  
WOMEN'S STATUS

Prepared by the World Food Programme

75-07211

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Fundação Cuidar o Futuro

## Summary

The Executive Director has taken the opportunity, occasioned by International Women's Year 1975, to take stock of what WFP has done to improve the status of women and enhance their contribution to development, and to identify what the Programme may do in the future.

Lack of data concerning female involvement makes it difficult to provide more than a preliminary picture of activities supported by the Programme which are of benefit to women.

Three areas of support are identified: nutrition and health; education and training; and employment, production and income.

It is through supplementary feeding projects for the improvement of the nutrition and health of expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children that WFP has made its major contribution to the welfare of women. Approximately 1.1 million mothers and about 5.0 million pre-school children are anticipated to receive supplementary WFP rations through projects approved by 30 September 1974. The distribution of WFP foodstuffs, in cooperation with bodies providing technical and other non-food assistance, is often linked to schemes for nutrition education, child care and, in some cases, family planning advice is also given at the distribution centres. Food aid attracts to the distribution points women not otherwise reached by such instruction. In terms of global needs, these projects are only reaching a small number of women, but the catalytic effect of WFP aid is to show what is possible and to spur national authorities to assume increased responsibility.

Taking account of the World Food Conference resolutions concerning nutrition, the Executive Director proposes to allocate an increasing share of WFP resources to these projects. At the same time, he intends to strengthen WFP action by much closer cooperation with other multilateral, bilateral and non-governmental bodies which can provide the technical backstopping, training of national staff and non-food inputs so essential for the success of these projects and by stimulating the creation of an institutional framework for involving women much more in the decision-making and implementation of these projects.

There are other types of WFP-supported projects which directly or indirectly, also improve the nutrition, health and general well-being of women, including: hospital feeding; milk production schemes; environmental improvement works; public health programmes; settlement and resettlement schemes (including assistance to refugees); emergencies, reconstruction and rehabilitation operations.

The feeding in schools of about 4.9 million primary school children with WFP commodities has also made a substantial contribution to health and well-being in many needy communities and has often provided a means of involving mothers in the organization, preparation and distribution of the children's food, making them aware of the importance of certain basic principles of nutrition and hygiene.

In its support for education and training projects, WFP provides food for school meals in institutions of higher education, reducing the government's food bills and enabling funds to be released for school buildings, teachers' salaries, equipment and scholarships for needy students. While WFP has not gathered complete statistics indicating how many of the beneficiaries in each scheme are girls and women, a more conscious effort is needed to ensure that increasing numbers of females benefit equally with males.

A major impact of WFP aid is in rural development, a sector which, because of slow economic returns as compared with other sectors, does not attract much government or private investment, or conventional financial foreign aid. Here the reduction of rural unemployment and underemployment, by enabling governments to undertake rural works projects which they otherwise could not afford to implement, or could not undertake on the same scale, has been a major contribution by WFP. Food rations as an incentive to volunteers in self-help projects, or as part-payment of wages, have been instrumental in starting rural works, such as road building, dam construction, land reclamation, tree planting, installation of village water supplies or the digging of wells. The giving of food for work has been a powerful stimulus for community improvement on a self-help basis, and this is a sphere in which women can contribute and benefit on an equal basis with men. Particularly in countries where the tradition of community work is strong, as for example in several Latin American countries, in Sri Lanka and many parts of Africa, women work with men to improve local amenities by helping to build schools, health centres, paved roads, etc. Women find in such community enterprises an opportunity for social contact, greater mobility, a voice in community affairs and a greater acceptance of the claim of equality of status with that of their opposite collaborators in development. Yet, with rare exception WFP-supported food-for-work projects have been planned and implemented with scant regard for the effective employment of women, their production and income.

Food aid is a form of assistance which has a considerable potential as a means of improving women's status. Women often play an important role in organizing, distributing and preparing food on a community basis. In many communities the women run the WFP-supported school feeding schemes on their own initiative. It is primarily they who manage the utilization of the family rations distributed in food-for-work projects. This involvement of women in community action must be counted as a very positive step in the improvement of their status. WFP's role as a stimulator of social change can be seen in the opportunities created for women to become wage-earners in WFP-sponsored projects. More needs to be done, however, to formalize and institutionalize this process so that, consciously, women are fully and directly involved in decision-making concerning all aspects of the planning and implementation of WFP-supported projects.

Although some of WFP's projects have been specifically planned to benefit women, it cannot be said that in the main the planners of WFP-supported projects have hitherto paid particular attention to women's needs. A policy decision has therefore been made that new guidelines are to be drawn up for project planners and implementers indicating specific ways in which WFP might use food aid to speed up the fuller integration of women in national development programmes.

It should be stressed, however, that the extent of any future change of emphasis in the Programme's aid will be limited by shortages of supplies. The recent spiralling of commodity prices, coupled with increases in transport costs, has meant cutting down rather than expanding WFP's activities. One factor which should, however, be noted as encouraging is that the Programme's governing body, the Intergovernmental Committee, has given high priority to the feeding of vulnerable groups and to projects which can effectively contribute, through labour-intensive works, to increasing agricultural production. In this way it has confirmed one of the fundamental tenets of the Programme's philosophy, which is that human resources, particularly the health of mothers and children, and the development of a country's own resources, especially for increasing food production, are the foundations on which any national development programme must be built.

Examination of the part WFP has played hitherto in the advancement of women shows that food aid is potentially a useful form of aid in that it can contribute to women's health, education, training and employment opportunities and enable women to contribute to community development. However, the examples where this potential has been fully used in education, training and employment projects are rare and the number of women who have so far benefitted is small. Much remains to be done if WFP is to make a real contribution

to the integration of women in development. This will depend, in the first instance, on a more conscious effort being made on the part of sovereign governments to plan for the inclusion of women's interests in development projects. All aid agencies and programmes, including WFP, can play their part in fortifying these efforts during the scrutiny of requests for assistance, by a careful monitoring of the implementation of assisted projects, and through a thorough evaluation of their results.

The Executive Director has issued an administrative circular to this end to all project management officers at WFP headquarters and in the field. This circular is being brought to the attention of other UN agencies and programmes who are being invited to pay particular attention in their technical scrutiny of requests for aid to the possibilities of providing technical and other assistance in support of such action as well as of enhancing the status of women and their contribution to development through the WFP-supported projects.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

"Woman's cause is man's; they  
rise or sink together" (Tennyson)

1. The United Nations General Assembly has proclaimed 1975, International Women's Year (IWY). The Assembly has decided to devote this year to intensified action:

- " (a) To promote equality between men and women;
- (b) To ensure the full integration of women in the total development effort, especially by emphasizing women's responsibility and important role in economic, social and cultural development at the national, regional and international levels, particularly during the Second United Nations Development Decade;
- (c) To recognize the importance of women's increasing contribution to the development of friendly relations and co-operation among States and to the strengthening of world peace;" 1/

2. In common with other United Nations agencies and programmes, as well as governmental and non-governmental aid bodies, the Executive Director considers that IWY provides an excellent occasion to take stock of what WFP has done to improve the status of women and enhance their contribution to development, and to identify what the Programme may do in the future.

3. It is generally recognized that the status of women is that of under-privileged and under-represented "second class citizens". However, there is growing recognition of their considerable multi-faceted role in the economic, social, political and cultural advancement of their societies and countries as wives and mothers; educators (be it formally or informally) and professional workers; producers, especially of food; and decision makers, significantly affecting the demand and supply of goods and services. An analysis of the causes of the inequalities which exist between the sexes goes beyond the scope of this Report 2/. Suffice to say that women, who constitute over half the world's population, remain largely a "forgotten resource in development" 3/ and that any society which wants to proceed energetically towards progress, in all its dimensions, must realize women's creative energies 4/. To a significant degree, a country's state of underdevelopment can be correlated with its attitude towards the status of women and their role in its progress.

4. There is the beginning of a ground swell of opinion, however, to change the status quo as expressed at recent international conferences. At the World Population Conference in Bucharest, consensus was reached that "... improvements in the status of women in the family and in society can contribute, where desired, to smaller families, and the opportunity for women to plan births also improves their individual status". More recently, at the World Food Conference in Rome, six resolutions 5/, and the final declaration, contained specific reference to women, their rights and their role in the development process. The resolution on "Priorities for agricultural and rural development" 6/ recognizes "... the important role of women in rural life, in the production, processing, marketing and consumption

1/ General Assembly Resolution 3010 (XXVII), International Women's Year. See full text in Annex I.

2/ For a detailed review see Ester Boserup, Women's Role in Economic Development (George Allen and Unwin, London, 1970), United Nations, Report of the Interregional Meeting of Experts on the Integration of Women in Development, (ST/SAO/120) and Clio Presvelou, "Participation of Women in Rural Development Programmes", (Paper prepared for 26th Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women), FAO, Rome 1973.

3/ Natalie D. Henry, "A Forgotten Resource in Development - Women", 13th World Conference of the Society for International Development, San José, Costa Rica, February 1973.

4/ See A. Myrdal and V. Klein, Women's Two Roles, (Routledge and Kegan Paul, London, 1956).

5/ Resolutions II, IV, V, VIII, IX and XVIII. The World Food Conference resolutions quoted in this Report are taken from, "World Food Conference: Note by the Secretary-General", (ECOSOC document, E/5587, 22 November 1974).

6/ Resolution II.

of food, in family nutrition, in decisions on family size and child spacing and in child care and education, the need to involve them fully in the process of rural development, and the implications thereof for education and extension". One complete resolution is devoted to "Women and Food" 1/. And the Conference's, "Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition", while proclaiming that, "Every man, woman and child has the inalienable right to be free from hunger and malnutrition in order to develop fully and maintain their physical and mental faculties", recognizes " ... the key role of women in agricultural production and rural economy in many countries, and (the necessity) to ensure that appropriate education, extension programmes and financial facilities are made available to women on equal terms with men".

5. The following account provides a description of the nature and extent to which girls and women have participated in, and benefitted from, activities supported by WFP. Reports presented by government project authorities on the progress of WFP-assisted projects, by WFP headquarters and field officers and by evaluation missions often do not give a breakdown of information and data by sex. Consequently, lack of available data on female involvement makes it difficult to provide more than a preliminary picture of activities supported by the Programme which are of benefit to that sex. 2/ Females are among, and may constitute a majority, of the beneficiaries of most of WFP-supported projects since the Programme's foodstuffs are often distributed as family rations, and the work conducted with WFP support is for the benefit of the family or community. In the projects designed to improve the nutritional status of the vulnerable groups (pregnant, expectant and nursing mothers, pre-school children and primary school children), and through feeding programmes in schools, other educational and training institutions and hospitals, females are directly benefitted. Nevertheless, difficulties of obtaining data and information on female participation in, and benefit from, WFP-supported projects, apart from those designed to improve the nutritional status of mothers and pre-school children, is symbolic of the fact that until recently, little attention has been given to the special needs of women in the economic and social development plans and programmes of the developing countries. It has been assumed that the benefits accruing to women are inherent in a general improvement of countries' economic and social conditions. As a consequence, there has been little tendency on the part of the agencies and programmes of the United Nations system, including WFP, to initiate any special action to meet the various needs of women. 3/

6. In describing WFP support to the various sectors of activity which are of benefit to the feminine sex, the Executive Director wishes: (a) to identify the special role that food aid, as opposed to other forms of assistance, can play (see Section V); (b) to emphasize the crucial importance of combining this form of aid with technical, non-food and other forms of assistance which may be obtained from multilateral, bilateral or non-governmental bodies; (c) to stress that women's advancement can best be attained by achieving an association of action with men, as partners on an equal basis, for the improvement of the common good and (d) to underline the importance of making provision for the continuation of such activities after the termination of WFP assistance.

7. For convenience of description, WFP-supported activities relevant to the advancement of women may be identified in three main areas, although, in practice, there are a number of projects assisted by the Programme which contain an element of two or all three areas. These areas are:

- nutrition and health;
- education and training; and
- employment, production and income.

1/ Resolution VIII, see full text in Annex II.

2/ A study in greater depth will be carried out with the help of a consultant during 1975.

3/ See, Report of the Secretary-General, "Participation of women in UNDP-assisted activities", (ECOSOC document, E/CN.6/554, 18 January 1972).



II. NUTRITION AND HEALTH

Supplementary feeding programmes for mothers and children

8. It is through supplementary feeding projects for the improvement of the nutrition and health of expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children that WFP has made its major contribution to the welfare of women. \$117.6 million of assistance, eight percent of total WFP commitments from the commencement of the Programme's activities in 1963 to 30 September 1974 <sup>1/</sup>, have been approved for 72 projects wholly or largely in the category. There are <sup>36</sup> projects in other fields of activity which contain a subsidiary element relating to mothers and pre-school children (see Table 1). The cost of WFP assistance to these projects is not included in the above figure. Approximately 1.1 million mothers <sup>2/</sup>, and about 5.0 million pre-school children <sup>2/</sup> are anticipated to receive supplementary WFP rations through projects approved by 30 September 1974. From available data, about 332,000 mothers and 815,000 pre-school children were receiving WFP rations on 30 September 1974. The number of beneficiaries reached is evidently extremely small when compared with global requirements. One estimate puts the number requiring food assistance in 1970 at 57 million mothers and 114 million pre-school children <sup>3/</sup>, although it is noted that it is difficult to make even a rough estimate of the number suffering from malnourishment. However, the nutritional impact of WFP aid on certain countries, or regions within a country, can be considerable, on account of the large number of beneficiaries reached there (see Table 1), and the demonstrative and catalytic effects of this assistance to the extent that "... WFP aid is beginning to serve more directly as a driving force, spurring the national authorities to assume increased responsibility for human development programmes". <sup>4/</sup>

9. A regional breakdown of WFP assistance for mothers and pre-school children is as follows:-

Region *	No. of Countries	No. of Projects <sup>a/</sup>	Anticipated <sup>b/</sup> No. of Beneficiaries		Total WFP Cost <sup>c/</sup> (US\$ million)
			Mothers	Pre-School Children	
Africa, South of Sahara	26	39	416 600	633 700	15.0
Asia and Pacific	8	10	401 300	2 452 900	42.6
Latin America and Caribbean	9	13	223 700	199 580	59.2
Near East and North Africa	6	9	35 000	68 400	4.7
<b>Total:</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>1 076 600</b>	<b>5 150 800</b>	<b>121.5</b>

\* There are no projects in this category in the Europe (Southern) region.

<sup>a/</sup> Projects and project expansions wholly or partly in this category.

<sup>b/</sup> According to plans of operation or IGC project summaries.

<sup>c/</sup> Only for projects the major part of which is in this category.

<sup>1/</sup> Unless otherwise stated, all data subsequently given in this Report refer to this time period.

<sup>2/</sup> The term "mothers" is used throughout to include expectant and nursing mothers and the term "pre-school children" to include infants.

<sup>3/</sup> "Human Resource Development Projects: National Supplementary Feeding Programmes for Nutritionally Vulnerable Groups", (document WFP/IGC: 22/12-A, para. 23).

<sup>4/</sup> Report of the Executive Director on the "Scope for Expansion of WFP Activities in the Spheres of Improved Nutrition, Education and Training", (WFP/IGC: 15/16, para. 5).

The largest number of projects in this category is in Africa, the largest number of beneficiaries (mothers and pre-school children) are in Asia and the Pacific owing to the incidence of some very large projects in that region, and the highest value of WFP assistance is in Latin America and the Caribbean where more high-cost commodities have been supplied.

10. WFP assistance to these projects takes the form of supplementary rations. On a commodity basis, dried skim milk and protein fortified mixes such as CSM (corn soy milk), CSB (corn soy blend) and WSB (wheat soy blend), make up the bulk of the foodstuffs supplied (see Table 1). A number of projects, especially those with institutional kitchen facilities, have been supplied a range of commodities. On a per caput basis, WFP rations are usually supplied for the last three to six months of pregnancy for expectant mothers, up to one year for nursing mothers and from six months up to five years for the infant and pre-school child.

11. There is ample evidence to show that there is a high incidence of malnourishment among pregnant and lactating women in developing countries, which leads to a high incidence of infantile mortality and impaired physical and mental development of the child. The woman's health can also be seriously affected during and after pregnancy. Moreover, prolonged breast feeding, should be accompanied by other nutrients to cover the protein and energy needs of the growing child. Otherwise it can result in severe malnutrition in the child. 1/ Moreover, the diet of the mother should be improved to safeguard her health and enable her to breast feed her child.

12. The nutritional impact of WFP assistance can, in the short run, lead to an improvement of the nutritional status of the mother and the child when it is effectively geared to treating and/or preventing malnutrition and its effects. In the longer term, it can result in improved food habits through consumer education. It can also contribute to the physical and psychological well-being of the mother by helping to reduce infantile mortality, the growth of a healthy and happy child and a wider spacing of pregnancies. Other benefits can also follow. WFP supplementary rations can act as an incentive for women to attend regularly health, MCH and other types of centres or nutrition rehabilitation units where their health status, and that of their child, can be monitored, and where they can receive instruction in nutrition education and good food practices, housecraft, child care and family planning. The description that follows of selected WFP-supported projects in different parts of the world is intended to show the spectrum of the Programme's experience, as well as the potential effectiveness of this type of assistance, and the breadth and diversity of its results. 2/

13. Africa: WFP experience in Africa has been extremely varied as its assistance has been provided in widely differing circumstances. In Malawi, where WFP supplementary rations are intended to reach 30,000 mothers and 100,000 pre-school children through a three-year project, the most significant development has been the establishment of nutrition rehabilitation centres. These units are operated by the missions and by Government hospitals, the missions having taken the initiative. They cannot be operated by women in the community because of the high level of medical supervision required. The women who actually do the demonstrations are housecraft workers trained by the Government and paid by the district councils. An institutional framework is being created which is stimulating the mothers themselves to participate actively in the distribution and preparation of foodstuffs and to spread nutrition education and improved child feeding practices between themselves.

14. In Botswana, where a series of severe, prolonged droughts have aggravated widespread malnutrition already existing among the vulnerable groups, it is impossible at present to achieve any effective expansion of the WFP-assisted supplementary feeding programme, aimed at reaching 45,000 mothers and 63,000 pre-school children, without the involvement

1/ FAO/WHO/UNICEF, Lives in Peril: Protein and the Child (FAO, Rome, 1970), pp. 26 - 27.

2/ The regional breakdown adopted for the report is the same as that used in the Executive Director's special tenth anniversary report on the development of the Programme (document WFP/IGC: 23/5 and Add. 1)

of local voluntary organizations, because of the limited number of medical centres and staff. Here it is a case of spreading nutrition and health improvement through the initiative of the women themselves; the frequency of distribution of WFP rations being primarily dependent on the existence of groups willing to undertake the tasks involved. Women's clubs and organizations provide a non-formal training ground for direct involvement in their own welfare. The initiative of voluntary organizations can therefore be decisive for the implementation of projects of this kind, but the organization of an efficient system of food distribution, using these clubs as agents requires direction, supervision and education of the people involved and coordination with medical units. In Botswana's case a team of family welfare educators is being built up with adequate knowledge of nutrition, home economics and related subjects to help these clubs.

15. In the Central African Republic, over 60 social centres with canteens have been set up throughout the country under the supervision of the Ministry of Public Health and Social Affairs. These centres include a kindergarten for children between four and six years of age, and mother and child care instruction and home economics for women. Children attend the centres where they are provided a mid-morning snack in the mornings for 10 months a year. Owing to the stringency of the Government's resources, WFP assistance has been requested to increase and diversify the foodstuffs available for distribution at these centres, thus making it possible for more children to be admitted to existing kindergartens, for more centres to be opened and for nutrition habits to be improved. The centres also enable women to carry out other tasks while their children are well cared for. It has been reported that enrolment at the centres has increased as WFP foodstuffs have become available. The social welfare assistants at the centres attest unanimously that children are more alert as a result of improved nutrition. The continuation of this programme is planned through a project to promote domestic food production, which is also assisted by the Programme.

16. WFP is assisting a Government project in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for the nutritional improvement of mothers and pre-school children, mainly in the urban areas, where about 35 percent of the country's population is located and where the problems of malnutrition differ from those of the rural areas. The traditional local diet, already barely sufficient in terms of calories, and insufficient in protein, is modified by changes in living conditions, often for the worse, in the move to the towns, and by consequential population growth and congestion in the larger centres. As experience has shown elsewhere, mothers and pre-school children have suffered most. There is widespread evidence of malnutrition and children are weaned earlier than is customary without additional protein supplements. WFP assistance is providing a daily ration for mothers and pre-school children at 14 social welfare centres to help reduce infant mortality caused by malnutrition and to improve the nutritional status of mothers who receive instruction in nutrition and hygiene, accompanied by practical cooking demonstrations using WFP foodstuffs. A WHO expert's report indicates infant mortality in Brazzaville to have decreased from 90 per 1,000 in 1970 to 75 per 1,000 in 1971, largely as a result of the efforts of the public health authorities.

17. In Mauritius, where the Programme is assisting a Government project involving 20,000 mothers and 50,000 pre-school children, food assistance is being provided as a means to improve the nutritional status of pregnant and nursing women and also to provide an incentive for them to attend classes in family planning. Anaemia of the iron deficiency type is common among expectant and nursing mothers. Breast feeding is encouraged for as long as possible at all centres. Those mothers unable to breast feed are given whole milk supplements for the child by the Ministry of Health. The need for nutrition education was highlighted by the fact that women often threw away the iron tablets they received from the project authorities.

18. It is questionable whether food aid alone can serve as an incentive for family planning in the way it is used in Mauritius. A nursing mother who attends classes in family planning receives no further food assistance after 12 months, whereas a new pregnancy automatically gives her the right to further food aid. Combatting malnutrition

and encouraging family planning needs to be supported by an intensive follow-up educational programme.

19. WFP is supporting Government vulnerable group feeding programmes in Lesotho and Swaziland. It is planned to reach 45,000 mothers and 65,000 pre-school children in Lesotho and 25,000 mothers and 40,000 pre-school children in Swaziland. In both countries the medical personnel at hospitals and health centres felt that the supply of milk would play a significant role in reducing the incidence of such diseases of malnutrition as kwashiorkor and marasmus, and while these diseases are still present to some extent, there has been a marked improvement in those areas where clinics are operating.

20. In Lesotho, steps to incorporate more systematic nutrition education into the project have been taken by appointing the Catholic Relief Services (CRS) as executing agency for this activity, and two previously separate programmes for vulnerable groups run by WFP and CRS are now combined, and could provide a pattern for similar collaboration in other projects. In the case of Lesotho this has brought organizational benefits in that the CRS ensure that a qualified nurse is posted at each clinic, that lectures are held at each clinic on health and nutrition, and provision is also made for the weighing of children, to evaluate the impact of food aid.

21. The early termination of a project supported by WFP in Chad, which was to assist the Government to implement a programme of nutrition improvement and education for 100,000 mothers and pre-school children, points to the necessity for project authorities to have the capacity to organize, and carry out, nutrition education and food distribution, particularly where nation-wide programmes are involved, for sufficient funds to be allocated in view of the internal costs of utilizing food aid, for adequate numbers of qualified personnel to be available, and for a basic logistic network to exist, if projects of this nature are to have a reasonable chance of success.

22. Asia: The Programme is supporting a small number of large vulnerable group feeding projects in Asia. In Korea, where the Government has emphasized the importance of family planning since 1961, WFP is supporting an integrated programme for supplementary feeding, nutrition education and family planning promotion. This programme is providing increasing evidence that an integration of services, directed to all aspects of the improvement of family life, in particular to improving the dietary habits of the lower-income groups, can be an important motivating factor for family planning. The Korean example also shows what can be achieved with adequate numbers of qualified field workers and demonstrates the importance of training such cadres.

23. The purpose of the programme is to establish a country-wide network of day-care centres to reach the nutritionally vulnerable population, to provide supplementary rations and nutrition education, and to complement existing family planning services. WFP has agreed to supply one reasonably substantial meal per day, for 300 days a year over three years, to infants and pre-school children attending Government-registered day-care centres. It is hoped to reach some 30,000 children in 375 centres by the last year of WFP aid. At the same time, 10,000 mothers of the benefitting children will receive family planning advice and nutrition education conducted by qualified field workers with the assistance of CARE. Maternal and child health care will also be provided at each centre. A base line survey is being established to determine the effectiveness of the programme.

24. In Afghanistan, where there is general protein deficiency and where milk especially is in short supply, WFP aid has been approved for a large supplementary feeding project, involving over 131,000 mothers and 136,000 pre-school children. Short training courses

in food preparation, nutrition education and better child feeding practices are given at the centres through which the WFP rations are distributed. CARE-MEDICO is providing training courses for personnel in charge of feeding the mothers and children, and volunteer doctors, nurses and technicians are helping to staff the programme.

25. A WFP-supported project, which is attempting to reach 20,000 mothers and 50,000 pre-school children in Nepal, is particularly illustrative of the difficulty of trying to operate activities of this type in a least-developed country with significant logistic problems. The Women's Training Centre and National Vocation Centre in Kathmandu are assisting in training personnel for the project, but owing to shortage of public funds, and to severe problems of logistics, only a small proportion of the needy population is reached. Foodstuffs must be airlifted to remote areas at considerable cost.

26. One of the largest projects in this category assisted by the Programme, in terms of the number of beneficiaries involved, is in Indonesia where it is anticipated to reach over 300,000 mothers, infants and pre-school children through over 1,700 MCH centres. WFP assistance is to help correct protein deficiency, which is prevalent amongst this group, and to strengthen the role of the MCH centres through which its assistance is supplied. Many mothers are unable to breast feed their children adequately because of malnutrition and are often unable to buy nutritionally acceptable substitutes for their infants. There is, therefore, a high incidence of protein deficiency and of diseases related to malnutrition.

27. There has been a major effort to establish community health centres throughout the country by merging MCH and polyclinic activities and adding other functions such as family planning, communicable disease control and environmental health services. The basic idea is to establish a unit of health services providing easily accessible, comprehensive health care through an integrated system to the population of a defined area.

28. For numerous reasons, the project is only reaching about 50 percent of the targets set. One of the most serious problems is the shortage of personnel, mainly nurses and midwives. About 75 percent of births in rural areas are assisted by untrained, local midwives, and an extensive training programme is being set up to train them. It is doubtful whether the project is achieving any significant nutritional impact owing to considerable irregularity in attendance at the centres where food rations are distributed. This may be due, to some extent, to difficulty in meeting the fees required for attendance. Disruption of WFP supplies, owing to shortage of resources, has also caused many beneficiaries to stop attending the centres temporarily. The impact of WFP food in attracting higher attendance levels has thus become evident. It is also clear that the centres are not yet able to maintain high attendance levels purely on the basis of the health services rendered. The MCH centres are, therefore, considerably underutilized.

29. It is necessary to convince mothers of the value of the services available in order to maintain high attendance after food aid ceases. Greater involvement of the community in the work of these centres might help, as would making them more accessible to people in the rural areas. This project shows the difficulties and complexities of improving the nutritional and health status of vulnerable groups, and of the need for careful planning and formulation before embarking on large-scale programmes.

30. Latin America and the Caribbean: Some of the most profound experience in vulnerable group feeding programmes has been obtained in the Latin America and Caribbean region. The largest single WFP-supported project in this category is in Colombia where the Programme has committed assistance, totalling \$75 million, for a nation-wide supplementary feeding project which anticipates reaching some 85,000 mothers and 330,000 pre-school

children, as well as 526,000 primary school pupils. Considerable income inequality, rapid urbanization, a high population growth rate and unemployment, as well as widespread poverty and ignorance, have all contributed to a high, and possibly increasing, proportion of the country's population being seriously underfed and malnourished. Malnutrition is particularly prevalent amongst mothers and the pre-school population, and accounts for one in three of total infant mortalities, three times that of the USA and six times that of Switzerland. National economic policies have been designed to eliminate malnutrition by raising production, incomes and employment. These will take time to have effect. The immediate solution, therefore, lies in a large-scale supplementary feeding programme which WFP is supporting.

31. The programme is mainly implemented in urban areas because of their more adequate organizational and logistic structure, although the current policy is to increase coverage to rural areas. The majority of beneficiaries are primary school children but emphasis is being shifted to the mother and pre-school child. More community child centres are being established which provide an integrated programme for young children, nursery schools, kindergartens and maternal and child health services. The objective is to make available in one place integrated services, both public and private, for the complete development of the pre-school child, the education of the family and stimulation of the process of community development.

32. The soundness of this programme is based significantly on the participation of the women themselves, as well as of the community at large. This augurs well for the future progress and maintenance of the programme. Community contributions are rapidly increasing and now cover 50 percent of all non-food expenditure. Women participate actively in the running of the rural communities. Mothers also receive nutrition education which is specifically orientated to improve the nutritional status of their children. It has been found that the supplementary feeding programme effectively combats malnutrition only if it is linked to a nutrition education programme for mothers. There is continuous evaluation of its impact during the period of nutrition education through question and answer periods at the health centres and during home visits. Six months after courses are completed, home visits are made to assess the changes in nutritional habits and in food preparation.

33. Another important development of this programme is the decision to produce, commercially, an enriched protein mixture called "bienestarina" which has been successfully tested on an experimental scale. The domestic production of this mixture will help efforts to combat malnutrition and is an indication of Government's plans to supply eventually all the food requirements of the supplementary feeding programme.

34. The programme is proving to be highly successful overall. With the benefit of an effective local built-in evaluation system, it can be seen that the results obtained so far are very encouraging. There has been a substantial reduction in the percentage of low birth weight children, previously one of the main results of mothers' deficient food intake. Studies, with control groups, have shown a reduction of 39 percent in malnourished children over a six months and 57 percent over a one year, period of supplementary feeding. Other countries could benefit from the experience of Colombia as well as from studying the programme's organizational structure and evaluation framework which deserves further external support.

35. In Mexico, WFP has since 1967 assisted a Government project which aims to reach 75,000 mothers and 150,000 pre-school children, mainly in the rural areas, through 2,500 health and community centres run by the Ministry of Health and Welfare. It is estimated that at least 50 percent of the rural population is undernourished with malnutrition most serious among mothers and pre-school children.

36. The Government has launched a rural development programme to reduce economic and social disparities between the rural and urban areas. Nutrition education and supplementary feeding are provided for the vulnerable groups with 1,200 medical interns and 1,200 auxiliary nurses assigned to the programme, working as "pasantes" for a compulsory one year term in the rural public service prior to becoming fully graduated doctors and nurses. Mothers attend courses on food demonstration, child feeding practices, food hygiene and general nutrition every ten days at the time when food rations are distributed. The pre-school child receives a supplementary ration only after reaching one year of age in order to avoid creating any disincentive against breast feeding.

37. The Mexican programme offers another good example of the effective involvement of women in the promotion of their own welfare. The feeding programme is carried out mainly by mothers' committees, guided by auxiliary nutritionists. This institutional arrangement is particularly appropriate because of the difficulty of reaching mothers and pre-school children in sufficient numbers, and especially the most needy, to obtain a significant impact on the problems of malnutrition, owing to the small coverage that is generally achieved through public health services in developing countries and the fact that such services do not regularly reach those who need assistance most. This mechanism also has the benefit of bringing women into the decision-making process and provides a training ground for administrative and managerial tasks on a community basis. For these reasons, the programme provides a model for planning and organizing similar activities in other developing countries.

38. A special characteristic of this project, as developed by the mothers' committees in the rural areas, is that the committees themselves undertake to reconstitute dried skim milk during the initial period of the project's operation in the community. During this period the opportunity is taken to give practical training to newly-incorporated mothers in the correct preparation and utilization of the product which is subsequently delivered to them in powdered form every ten days. The project underlines the importance of the active participation of all mothers in food preparation demonstrations, not only in the correct use of the WFP commodities provided, but also for improving the traditional preparation of locally produced foods.

39. North Africa and Near East: The largest supplementary feeding programme supported by WFP in the North Africa and Near East region is in Iran. It is reported that about one-third of children admitted to Teheran hospitals suffer from diseases associated with a condition of advanced malnutrition. Between 30 and 40 percent of children show only 70 percent of the ideal weight for age, often owing to the poor nutritional status of their mothers. The WFP-assisted programme anticipates reaching 25,000 mothers and 50,000 pre-school children. MCH centres have been established as focal points for a country-wide family planning programme through which WFP rations are issued to needy beneficiaries on prescription from responsible MCH physicians or other qualified medical personnel. The usefulness of WFP dried skim milk as an incentive for mothers to attend these centres has been clearly demonstrated.

40. Syria provides an interesting example of a community development programme for accelerating rural development, an integral part of which is the provision of nutrition and health training courses for mothers and supplementary feeding for pre-school children at kindergartens while their mothers are engaged either in training or employment, notably in carpet making (see paras. 102 - 104). Community development centres have been set up which include a cultural and social unit to conduct literacy campaigns, home economics courses and to provide kindergarten facilities, as well as elementary training in carpet making; a health unit for mothers; an agricultural and economic unit to stimulate local agricultural production; and a construction unit to improve rural housing and roads. WFP assistance has been provided to stimulate attendance at the training centres and to children in kindergartens, which facilitates mothers' attendance at training courses.

41. The Programme is assisting a project in Egypt for the production of food mixtures for children. The Government aims at improving dietary patterns and nutritional status of infants and children by producing low-cost protein-rich food, including a low-cost food mixture called "superamine" for infants and pre-school children based mainly on locally produced raw materials. The product is a pre-cooked, enzyme-treated product, finished as a coarse flour. WFP has supplied certain of the ingredients required. The ultimate target of the Government's programme is to make "superamine" and similar foods available either at low cost and/or for free distribution to the low-income groups for 800,000 children of the weaning age and 8 million pre-school and school children.

#### Synthesis of experience

42. Experience over the past twelve years has shown that WFP assistance can make a significant contribution to improving women's nutritional status, and thereby their contribution to development in the widest sense, through mother and child feeding programmes. This contribution can be seen from the direct impact of improved nutrition and health. It can also be measured in terms of providing incentive to women to attend various types of centres where their health, and that of their children, can be checked, and where improved nutritional practices, child care and family planning can be inculcated. Their involvement in their own welfare through the execution of such programmes can also contribute to bringing women into the wider decision-making process at the community, regional and even national level.

43. An important feature of these programmes has been the close association of WFP assistance with technical aid provided by FAO and WHO, and of non-food inputs provided by UNICEF. Cooperation with bilateral and non-governmental bodies has also enhanced the effectiveness of the Programme's assistance, as demonstrated in Lesotho, where they have the appropriate organizational capacity. Association and cooperation should be extended and deepened on a more regularized basis, with mutual benefit, for an integrated approach to solving the nutrition and health problems of the mother and the child.

44. In common with other food aid programmes <sup>1/</sup>, however, WFP has experienced numerous problems, which has reduced the impact of its assistance in a number of projects in this category. In a number of cases, little advantage has been gained from the opportunity to use WFP foodstuffs for the improvement of nutritional education owing to inadequate supervision and specialized staff, to the lack of equipment and teaching materials, poor distribution infrastructure or to faulty project formulation and implementation. In the absence of an institutional framework, the problem of reaching the mother and child can be considerable. However, the experience of Mexico has shown that with imagination, energy and, in particular, the involvement of women themselves in the distribution of foodstuffs and the spread of nutrition education, this problem is not insurmountable. Considerable experience has now been accumulated concerning formal and less formal arrangements for reaching the mother and child by various food aid agencies, as well as the developing countries themselves. <sup>2/</sup> Much could be gained for an effective sharing of this experience which the Executive Director aims to pursue.

45. The focus of WFP assistance for these programmes must change. Instead of accomplishing numerical results in terms of diets supplemented or beneficiaries reached, the focus should be broadened to influence nutritional thinking, as well as nutritional status,

<sup>1/</sup> See, for example, Food for Peace: An Evaluation of PL 480 Title II, A Global Assessment of Title II, Checchi and Co., Washington, D.C., July 1972, Vol. 1, pp. 50 - 51.

<sup>2/</sup> See, for example, D. B. Jelliffe and E. F. Patrice Jelliffe (Editors), Nutrition Programmes for Pre-school Children, Zagreb 1973, and FAO/WHO/UNICEF Protein Advisory Group Feeding of Pre-school Child, Report of a PAG ad hoc working group, document 1.14/5, October 1971.



and to inculcate sound and permanent food consumption and hygiene habits. Seen in this light, supplementary feeding programmes are much more complex and difficult to operate, and must include many more elements than the distribution of food rations if they are to be assured of success, as described in paragraph 55, especially the improvement of equipment and facilities available to women in the household. They will often require different forms of aid, in addition to food, which may be supplied from various aid agencies in association, or through joint ventures with WFP. In addition appropriate institutional structures should be set up in the recipient country themselves to ensure the active participation of the women.

46. The potential for improving nutritional status is too often lost when, as in many WFP-supported projects, rations calculated for the mother and child because of extreme poverty are taken home and divided among all members of the family. More attention should therefore be given to reaching the family as a whole as well as to the use of resources within the household 1/, and to arrangements for follow-up visits to the homes of beneficiaries to observe what happens to food supplements. The same applies to the avoidance of bad feeding practices which may be created through a well-intended food aid programme, such as the decline of breast-feeding 2/. There is no evidence that this has happened through WFP assistance but there must be constant vigilance to ensure that it does not occur. Care must also be exercised not to introduce foods which the mother may not be able to purchase or obtain on the cessation of aid. 3/

47. Insufficient attention is given, both during the planning, formulation and scrutiny of projects submitted for the Programme's aid, and during their implementation, to the continuation of mother and child feeding programmes after the cessation of WFP assistance. The Programme has recognized that the time required for recipient countries, particularly the least developed countries, to take over full responsibility for such programmes, including the establishment of a solid organization of essential supporting activities (mothers' education, socio-economic changes within the family unit, local production of suitable foods), is longer than for food-for-work projects where there is a quid pro quo in material terms. The Programme has established conditions to govern expansion of WFP aid to these projects 4/. Nevertheless, it has been agreed that, to the extent possible, recipient governments must be expected to spell out specific target dates for increasing their participation in aided projects. 5/ This might either take the form of increased central government funding, or the local community and beneficiaries themselves assuming an increased share of the costs, or an increase in the production of local foods required for protein-rich mixtures, as in Colombia and Egypt, or the fortification of staple foods with appropriate nutrients, vitamins and minerals.

48. In few projects is there an effective built-in evaluation system to measure the impact of the various activities involved, including the provision of food aid, which might indicate how close they come to reaching their objectives and efficiently they are operating. WFP is cooperating with the FAO/WHO/UNICEF Protein Advisory Group in developing an appropriate methodology for the evaluation of supplementary feeding

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1/ A. P. den Hartog, "Unequal Distribution of Food within the Household (A Somewhat Neglected Aspect of Food Behaviour)", FAO Nutrition Newsletter, Vol. 10, No. 4, Oct. - Dec. 1973, pp. 8 - 17 and A. P. den Hartog and Annika Bornstein, "Social Science, Food and Nutrition: An Introduction to the Study of Food Habits", Nutrition Programmes and Research Service, FAO, Rome, January 1974.

2/ See, "In Defense of Breast-Feeding", Food Policy and Nutrition Division, FAO, Rome 1974, See also the WHO resolution of May 1974 on lactation in Annex III.

3/ See "Annual Statement of the Executive Director on the Development of the Programme (Special Tenth Anniversary Issue)" (WFP/IGC: 23/5, para. 346).

4/ "Special Feeding Projects" (WFP/IGC: 13/15).

5/ See document WFP/IGC: 15/16, para. 56.

programmes. Special attention should be paid to drawing up guidelines needed for the continuation of aid projects. There can also be benefits from cooperation with bilateral and non-governmental agencies, both in improving the methods of evaluation, and for their implementation, bearing in mind that optimally the evaluation process would have to take place continuously over a longer time span than for other types of projects. 1/

49. Taking into account the World Food Conference resolutions concerning nutrition, the Executive Director proposes to allocate an increasing share of WFP resources in future to the supplementary feeding of vulnerable groups 2/. The Conference recommended that "... governments consider the key role of women and take steps to improve their nutrition, the educational levels and their working conditions; and to encourage them and enable them to breast-feed their children;" and that governments should "... review special feeding programmes within the context of their food and nutrition strategies to determine the desirability and feasibility of undertaking such new programmes, or improving existing ones, particularly amongst the vulnerable groups (children, expectant and nursing mothers) ... such programmes should promote increased local food production and processing thereby stimulating local initiative and employment and should also include an element of nutrition education". 3/

50. Besides increasing their volume, and noting their basically different purposes, character and mode of operation, WFP intends to strengthen nutrition projects both for mothers and pre-school children, and for primary school children, by reaching a much closer cooperation with other multilateral, bilateral and non-governmental bodies which can provide the technical backstopping, training of national staff in technical and administrative matters, and non-food inputs so essential for the success of these projects. Particular emphasis will be laid on nutrition education, child care and family planning, and, especially, on the increased participation of women, as well as on built-in evaluation to measure the effectiveness and efficiency of such projects. WFP also intends to increase, to the extent possible, the supply of fortified or blended cereals, especially in emergency situations, with due attention to acceptability and to the recipient countries' ability to continue the provision of such foodstuffs on the termination of WFP aid. 4/

#### Other related nutrition and health projects

51. There are other types of projects supported by the Programme which also contribute, directly or indirectly, to improving the nutrition, health and general well-being of women, and to the improvement of their environment (see Table 2).

#### Hospital feeding

52. WFP has committed assistance, at a total cost to the Programme of \$33.9 million, to hospital programmes in 28 countries which aims at reaching some 295,000 beneficiaries. The number of females benefitting from this assistance is not known. Although only two percent of the Programme's resources committed to development projects have been allocated to these programmes, the catalytic and motivative effect of this modest amount has had a noticeable impact in certain countries, particularly as investment of public funds in this sector is highly restricted 5/. The provision of WFP foods

1/ See, "The Approach to Evaluation of WFP Development Aid: Participation of FAO", (WFP/IGC: 25/12 Add. 1, pp. 3 - 6).

2/ "Annual Statement of the Executive Director on the Development of the Programme", (WFP/IGC: 27/4, para. 53).

3/ Resolution V, paras. 6 and 7.

4/ See document WFP/IGC: 27/4, para. 55.

5/ See document WFP/IGC: 23/5, para. 235 - 239.

makes it possible for a better protein-rich diet to be provided at the hospitals. This helps to accelerate the recovery of patients, thereby increasing the turn-over of often scarce hospital facilities, as well as hastening the return of the patient to the home and to work. The provision of WFP food can also be used to provide experience in organizing and managing feeding in hospitals, and to teach those handling hospital feeding programmes, many of whom are women, the preparation and benefits of improved, protein-rich diets, and to inculcate nutrition education and improved eating habits. This training can also be passed on to larger groups through women and child feeding programmes, although this opportunity has only been realized in a few cases owing to shortage of qualified staff. A significant, and in many cases a more effective, result of WFP assistance, has been to release funds from hospital feeding budgets to finance the expansion or improvement of hospital, including maternity, facilities, and the training of staff, many of whom are women (see para. 77).

#### Milk production schemes

53. Milk and milk product supplies to women and children, particularly those in the lowest income groups, have been enhanced through WFP assistance to dairy development schemes. About 11 percent, or \$176 million, of WFP assistance has been invested in 56 projects, located throughout the developing world, which are largely or exclusively concerned with animal production and dairy development. There are also another 25 projects, mainly concerned with other fields of activity, which contain a subsidiary element relating to animal production and dairy schemes. WFP assistance has taken two main forms. Feed commodities have been supplied to milking animals, thereby improving their productivity. In other cases, WFP has provided dried skim milk and butter oil which are mixed with locally produced liquid milk through toning and recombining processes, thereby expanding available supplies which would otherwise be inadequate or too high priced to reach the poorer sectors of the community. Both approaches are linked with measures designed to increase local milk supplies permanently.

54. Many of the WFP-supported milk production schemes have a built-in element of directing a portion of increased supplies to the vulnerable groups. In Mali, the milk plant supported by WFP is producing small-sized packages of toned milk in order to facilitate purchase by low-income groups. One instance of this is in India, where the largest single WFP-supported project in terms of the value of aid provided (\$143 million as at 31 December 1974), is assisting a nation-wide milk marketing and dairy development scheme. One of the main purposes of WFP assistance to this project is to help the Government make available wholesome milk at stable and reasonable prices to the city consumer, including vulnerable groups, with an anticipated major effect on protein intake.

#### Environmental improvement

55. Improvement of habitation, sanitation and the quality of water must go hand in hand with improvement in basic health services and nutritional measures if there is to be substantial improvement in health and nutritional status <sup>1/</sup>. The improvements contribute substantially to improving the quality of life of women in particular, as well as the community at large. A wide range of environmental improvement measures have been supported by WFP through food-for-work projects where the Programme's aid is provided either as part-payment of wages or as an incentive to encourage self-help, voluntary work, often on a community development basis. These include the construction

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<sup>1/</sup> World Food Conference document, Assessment of the World Food Situation - Present and Future, para. 492.

of public buildings and private houses and the creation of public amenities, involving slum clearance, improvement of sanitation and the establishment of drinking water supplies in urban and rural areas. Housing reconstruction and rehabilitation programmes have also been assisted following natural disasters and civil disturbances. Housing and other environmental improvement measures have been supported in settlement and resettlement projects, particularly those associated with large irrigation developments, as well as in community, multi-purpose schemes.

56. Two of the largest housing projects supported have been in Morocco and Turkey. In Morocco, WFP has assisted a country-wide construction programme which has resulted in the building or renovation of 33,000 houses. This programme has also involved the renovation and rehabilitation of the mud brick villages (ksour) in the southern part of the country which has improved their sanitary and environmental conditions considerably, thereby making a substantial contribution to easing the housework of women. In Turkey, the Programme has helped accelerate a Government programme of squatter housing clearance and of reconstructing dwellings affected by natural disasters under which 76,000 houses have been built on a self-help basis. In Iraq, WFP has provided assistance to four projects which have contributed to the urban improvement of Arbil and the construction and rehabilitation of 27,000 houses in the northern and southern parts of the country. In Jordan, slum clearance, house construction, improvement of urban roads and streets, landscaping and tree planting in and around the capital, Amman, has been supported by the Programme's aid. The reconstruction of the town of Skopje in Yugoslavia was one of the earliest projects to be assisted by WFP.

57. In the Dominican Republic, it is estimated that WFP assistance accelerated a programme of improving rural drinking water supplies by 50 percent as it has helped to mobilize volunteer labour and promote a community development spirit. Families which could not afford to pay for laying on drinking water connections to their homes gave their labour in return for WFP rations. The economic and social benefits of this project, particularly for the women-folk, are clear. Water, which was previously hand-carried by women for distances of up to four kilometres, is now on tap in the home, and the incidence of illnesses caused by unclean and scarce water supplies for drinking and washing has fallen markedly.

#### Public health programmes

58. In the Philippines, WFP has provided assistance over a period of five years for a project to control Schistosomiasis <sup>1/</sup>, a snail borne disease which saps human vitality and causes reduced productivity. WHO ranks this disease high among the major public health problems of the tropics and sub-tropics. It is endemic in 71 countries and an estimated 200 million people are affected. The disease is a major public health problem in the Philippines afflicting men and women alike as they work in the fields. WFP assistance, in association with that provided by the UNDP, WHO, UNICEF, USAID and the Japanese Government, has provided an effective incentive to attract and mobilize workers, on a voluntary self-help basis, to engage in labour-intensive measures which have controlled the disease, including drainage works, land clearance, channelling and the application of molluscicides to snail habitats. The project has contributed significantly to improving the rural environment and helped to stimulate community cooperation, which augurs well for the execution and maintenance of project activities.

59. In Turkey, WFP has assisted, along with WHO and UNICEF, a national malaria eradication scheme over a six-year period, and the national trachoma control service over a period of three years. <sup>2/</sup> WFP assistance provided an effective incentive for the recruitment

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<sup>1/</sup> For a further description of the project see, José Abcede "Operation Snail", in the WHO magazine World Health, January 1973, pp. 28 - 33.

<sup>2/</sup> See, Didier Henrioud, "Double Incentive", World Health, January 1973, pp. 14 - 19 and M. Postiglione, "The Impact of the World Food Programme on Malaria Eradication and Trachoma Control in Turkey", WHO, 30 November 1973.

of adequate numbers of temporary paid and voluntary workers to carry out annual campaigns. A spraying programme was conducted which benefitted over five million people as well as a surveillance programme covering an area inhabited by some 22.5 million persons. The trachoma surveillance surveys covered nine million people. Another project in Turkey was designed to tackle two closely related problems in the southern part of the country - improvement of drinking water supplies and control of cholera and typhoid fever. WFP assistance was provided to help mobilize under-employed villagers to work on a voluntary basis to improve conditions in their own villages. Although the WFP input was small, it served to speed up the programme which has been of particular benefit to rural women and has provided an example for other projects which might be developed in the future.

Settlement and resettlement schemes (including assistance to refugees)

60. Women and children are often at risk, nutritionally, during the process of movement to settlement or resettlement areas, and during the initial period when the first crops are under production. Experience has shown that WFP aid can be particularly effective in tiding settlers over the initial period when local foodstuffs may be in short supply or high-priced, thereby enhancing their nutritional status and speeding up the settlement process. The nutritional contribution of WFP assistance is heightened in resettlement projects involving refugees in which women and children are often seriously exposed to diseases associated with malnutrition.

61. The 96 projects in these categories represent a significant sector of WFP activities. About ten percent (\$156 million) of total resources committed to approved development projects have gone to these projects. Approximately one million beneficiaries are anticipated to receive WFP assistance of whom it can be assumed that at least 50 percent are females. The 27 projects and project expansions through which WFP provides assistance to refugees, all except one of which are in Africa south of the Sahara, involve about 325,000 beneficiaries, perhaps half of whom are females.

Emergencies, reconstruction and rehabilitation

62. The health and nutrition of women are especially at risk during emergency situations caused by sudden calamities such as volcanic eruptions, hurricanes, earthquakes, floods, locust infestations and similar unforeseen disasters or food scarcity conditions arising from drought, crop failure, pests and diseases and man-made emergencies. WFP emergency feeding programmes have helped to alleviate the suffering of an estimated 54 million people, particularly of women and children who are likely to suffer most and to need special protection, in 190 operations in 80 countries at a cost to the Programme of \$153 million by 31 December 1974. The World Food Conference recommended that part of the stocks to be earmarked for emergency purposes under the proposed "International Undertaking on World Food Security" 1/ " ... should be placed at the disposal of WFP ... in order to increase its capacity to render speedy assistance in emergency situations" 2/. The Executive Director intends to strengthen further the Programme's emergency activities, as well as its role in coordinating the food component of emergency assistance 3/.

63. WFP assistance in the reconstruction and rehabilitation period following emergencies has also been effective in protecting women against the dangers of under-nourishment and malnutrition. The quick-approval 4/ type of project has therefore provided a useful

1/ Resolution XVII.

2/ Resolution XVIII, para. 7.

3/ See document, WFP/IGC: 27/5, paras. 64 - 68.

4/ Formerly referred to as quasi-emergency projects.

tool for following up emergency operations and for acting as a bridge to full development works. The Programme has approved 79 quick-approval projects, at a total cost to WFP of \$72 million, in 29 countries. The precise number of women and girls directly benefitting from these projects is not known but it is anticipated that a total of 6.3 million beneficiaries will be reached through such projects.

### III. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

64. Education and training, both formal and non-formal, are amongst the most critical factors influencing the effectiveness of women's participation in development programmes. Yet Unesco and ILO statistics show that girls and women are at a marked disadvantage as regards both.

#### Education

65. Female enrolment at all levels of education is considerably below that of the male the world over. In the developing countries as a whole, in 1970, girls represented 39 percent of total enrolment; 40 percent, 35 percent and 29 percent of total enrolment at the first, second and third levels of education respectively <sup>1/</sup>. In almost all developing countries, females constitute the majority of illiterates. In most countries, girls still tend to drop out of school or institutes of higher education earlier than boys. Boys take precedence over girls in the family when parents have to make a choice between them in paying for education. There is often discrimination against girls in the nature and content of the education provided and the options offered. Moreover, girls' choices of subjects and lines of study remain dominated by conventional attitudes, concepts and notions concerning the respective roles of men and women in society. In summary, girls are generally at a disadvantage as regards both the length of their education, and its substance, which is a serious initial handicap for the future both for their status in society and their full contribution to development.

66. The largest single area of WFP assistance to development projects (18 percent of total commitments or \$275 million) is feeding programmes in primary schools. Another three percent (\$41 million) has gone to each of the other levels of education, secondary and higher. In total, therefore, about \$357 million or 24 percent of total WFP resources allocated to development projects since the commencement of the Programme's activities have been committed to supporting the educational sector at all levels of education.

67. At the primary level, the principal aim of WFP assistance is nutritional, and thereby health improvement, although it can also play a useful role in laying the foundations of good food habits, in influencing the family dietary pattern, in stimulating school attendance and in improving school performance <sup>2/</sup>. This can lead to increasing the range of candidates for entry into schools and higher educational institutions either by providing meals which were not previously available, or by improving the feeding programme, or by releasing funds from the government's school feeding budget which can be invested in expanding existing or creating new facilities and financing scholarships, especially for deserving, but needy, students.

68. It is anticipated that through all WFP-supported projects approved by 30 September 1974, the Programme's assistance will reach about 4.9 million primary school children, 342,000 secondary school pupils and 433,000 students at institutions of higher education. These figures are minute in comparison with the numbers of students at the various levels of education throughout the developing world. In many developing countries, the

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<sup>1/</sup> Unesco, Statistical Yearbook, 1972, table 2.3.

<sup>2/</sup> World Food Conference document, The World Food Problem - Proposals for National and International Action, para. 480.

proportion of children of school age who do not attend school is high and these are not reached by the school feeding programmes. Nevertheless, the impact of WFP assistance can be more noticeable for certain countries, or regions within a country. At the primary level, WFP assistance in Africa is anticipated to reach most of the pupils in Botswana, Lesotho, Mauritius and Swaziland. WFP assistance was also provided to an appreciable number of school age children over a two year period in eastern Nigeria following the cessation of the civil war. In Latin America, WFP assistance is expected to reach over half a million primary school pupils in both Brazil and Colombia. In the North Africa and Near East region, about 1.2 million pupils are expected to receive WFP assistance in Algeria and 247,000 in Sudan. At the secondary level of education, it is planned to assist the school feeding programmes designed to reach 10,000 pupils in Turkey, 17,000 in Burundi, 27,000 in Sudan, 29,000 in Morocco, 40,000 in India and 69,000 in Brazil. At the third level of education, WFP foodstuffs are expected to reach 25,500 students in Afghanistan, 60,000 in Guinea, 61,000 in Turkey and 181,000 in Egypt.

69. WFP assistance is particularly well suited therefore to help governments in developing countries to carry out certain phases of the educational development plans. In many countries, however, not only are data and information unavailable on the extent to which girls benefit from WFP assistance to the educational sector but also, given the syndrome described above (para. 65), it is likely that they represent a small fraction of total beneficiaries, and that where they are reached, the quality of the education is probably deficient. In the formulation, appraisal and implementation of WFP-supported projects in the educational sector, it is not always asked whether girls will benefit and whether the quality of the education they receive is sound. <sup>1/</sup> Secondary schools for girls only are being assisted in several countries where part of the school curricula make provision for practical training (cooking, sewing, etc.). In one school in Upper Volta an experiment was started which aimed at giving instruction to the future housewives to handle the family budget. The girls were housed in groups outside the main institute and required to live from their scholarship money which normally is administered by the school.

70. The extent to which educational projects can be supported by the Programme will depend on the level of its resources. With the shortage of resources available to WFP since 1973, resulting from the astronomical increase in commodity prices and the rapid shrinkage of available stocks, stringent priorities and management measures have had to be introduced which excluded new commitments for assistance to students above the primary school level, although it is recognized that a certain amount of flexibility will continue to be applied to some of the least-developed countries. <sup>2/</sup>

71. Demand for all forms of aid for educational projects in the developing world is considerable. Given the limited aid resources available, the Executive Director will ensure that a careful selection and preparation of projects will be carried out to establish not only that those activities eventually chosen for support meet the real needs of the recipient country, but that girls are given every opportunity to benefit as boys do, and that effective employment is assured after graduation. This will necessitate thorough pre-investment planning of projects in close cooperation with the potential recipient government, which will best be carried out through inter-agency cooperation.

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<sup>1/</sup> See Hans Singer, Children in the Strategy of Development, Executive Briefing Paper 6, United Nations Centre for Economic and Social Information (United Nations, New York 1972).

<sup>2/</sup> See document, WFP/IGC: 27/5, para. 48.

## Training

72. The circumstances which generally preclude females from benefitting equally with males in the field of education also apply to training opportunities. It is estimated that there will be about 562 million women among the world's labour force of 1,637 million in 1975, 65 percent of whom are in developing countries. 1/ Yet, what training there is for the modern sector is mostly for occupations from which women are excluded by tradition or practice. Moreover, there is little effective training, including non-formal training, for the tasks to which they are restricted. And in agriculture, where the bulk of the work is very often done by females, training is seldom given to girls and women, either for agricultural tasks or for related rural activities and crafts. 2/

73. The World Food Conference resolutions 3/ and declaration emphasized the importance of training for women. The resolution on "Priorities for agricultural and rural development" 4/, requests "... all governments to intensify their efforts in both formal and non-formal education of rural people with emphasis on what is relevant to their needs, taking into account the special role of women in agriculture and rural life in many societies, and to aim at the elimination of illiteracy within a decade".

74. Although only a modest proportion of WFP aid has been committed to training projects, a wide range of types of training has been supported, including pre-vocational and vocational training, on-the-job training and training courses in youth camps, in urban and rural areas. WFP assistance can act as an incentive for women to attend training courses, or offset loss of earnings during the period of training. It can also release funds from the feeding budgets of training programmes which can be ploughed back into enlarging and improving training facilities, and to increasing the number of scholarships for poor, but deserving, students. In total, 119 projects wholly or partly concerned with training have been approved by the Programme for assistance. Training for females is specifically provided in only a quarter of these projects. It should be noted, however, that this training is often a very modest part of the total project and that the training provided is, in many cases, restricted to traditionally accepted functions. There are a few projects, however, often providing non-formal training, which offer the prospect of enhancing women's role in what has largely been reserved as man's domain in the past and which may provide examples for other countries to follow (see paras. 84 - 103).

75. Home economics: Two projects supported by the Programme in Sudan and Iraq have provided training in improved housekeeping. In the Sudan, 1,240 women have attended evening classes for instruction in food preparation, nutrition education, housecraft and child care, sewing and embroidery, as well as literacy, as part of a community development project. WFP assistance provided a fillip for this programme by giving incentive for women to attend the classes. The more enduring effect, however, has been to help create an organization and institutions for the training of women, and to promote the creation of skills and attitudes for future community development activities in which women have played an effective and integrated roll. In Iraq, 1,600 girls have attended home economics institutes receiving WFP assistance. In Somalia, part of the WFP aid given to a multi-purpose community development project has contributed towards the construction of 10 women's education and community centres. As a result of the Programme's assistance to the Congo, social workers were able to improve activities undertaken by the social welfare centres. Courses on nutrition and hygiene, supported by practical cooking demonstrations, using local and WFP foods, were carried out, and

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1/ ILO, Equality of Opportunity and Treatment for Women Workers, Geneva, 1974, p. 4.  
See also, ILO, Women Workers in a Changing World, Geneva, 1973, pp. 13 - 23.

2/ ILO (1974), ibid, p. 29.

3/ See Resolutions II, para. 3; IV, para. 9(v) and VIII, para. 3.

4/ Resolution II.



recipes were distributed, in order to instruct mothers how to make best use of WFP rations at home.

76. Handicrafts: In Iraq, Mauritania and Senegal WFP assistance has been provided to various kinds of training programmes in handicrafts. In Iraq, rural development centres have been set up with the chief aim of imparting the knowledge and skills which would help the members of the rural communities lead a better, and more satisfying, life. Women's handicraft centres have been established in Mauritania at which a mid-day meal is given to women trainees, while in Senegal, expansion of rural vocational training, with UNDP support, has also been undertaken with WFP assistance.

77. Hospital training: An important part of WFP's assistance to hospitals (see para. 52) has been the support given to the training of hospital staff which is urgently required in many developing countries and, in particular, in the least developed countries. While food aid can be a stimulant for training, the example of the Yemen Arab Republic illustrates the constraints which often operate against the successful recruitment and training of women in this sector. WFP has committed assistance, at a total cost of over \$2 million, for over eight years, to a project which includes training centres for hospital staff, including nurses and assistant nurse-midwives. There is a problem of adequately staffing rural health centres and dispensaries such that even when new ones are built, they may not be in fully effective use. The catchment areas for prospective students and trainees are mostly restricted to major towns because there are few or no educational facilities in many of the rural areas, and social customs often inhibit attendance away from home.

78. Even the relatively small numbers qualifying may eventually be lost to the profession owing to such factors as lack of incentives, inadequate remuneration and early marriage. Equitable distribution between towns and rural areas is not always possible because of unwillingness of trainees to move away from major towns or their own home villages, difficult living conditions in rural areas and the fact that no compensation is given for hard living conditions. Lack of educational facilities and other constraints preclude selecting trainees from these areas themselves. Therefore, the numbers of students enrolled in the training centres, and consequently the number of graduates, have been lower than envisaged targets.

79. The Programme is also supporting a project for the training of hospital staff in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen as part of the Government's plans for expanding health and medical services. Hospital and other health facilities are to be increased but medical, nursing and other auxiliary staff are inadequate. It is estimated that over 300 doctors and 2,600 other staff are required. The number of female nurse trainees is only one-third that of the males owing to traditional, social restrictions which, inhibited until recently, the employment of women. Nurses and midwives are receiving food, hygiene and nutrition training. Local "giddas", traditional midwives in the rural communities, are also being trained in modern sterilization and antiseptic techniques, and to recognize complications that may arise during pregnancy and to refer such cases to hospital maternity units. These courses are of considerable benefit for MCH activities and for reducing maternal and infant mortality. However, for the same reasons which operate in the Yemen Arab Republic (see para. 77), the numbers under training are far short of the targets set.

80. In Algeria, WFP is assisting the Government with a scheme for the upkeep, education and training of war orphans following the war of independence. Assistance has been supplied since 1965 to between 4,000 - 6,000 orphans in up to 50 orphanages. Girls at the orphanages receive vocational training and pre-orientation training for various occupations, including para-medical training to become nurses' aids, nurses, midwives and hospital assistants.

81. Teacher training: A significant handicap to the expansion of education in developing countries is the shortage of qualified teachers. WFP has committed assistance to teacher training projects which include the training of women teachers. In Jordan, for

example, WFP aid is being given to a project which includes a women's teacher training unit. This unit has capacity for about 250 trainees. Secondary school hostels for women are also receiving WFP foodstuffs. Two extension centres for girls are attached to the women's teacher training institutes where girls have the opportunity to become social workers. The Programme's assistance has also encouraged many women teachers to accept assignments in rural areas, where they stay in hostels assisted by WFP commodities.

82. WFP aid to teachers' colleges in Algeria was provided over the four year period 1968-72 during which about 27,300 teachers were trained of whom 6,600 were females. The importance of this programme in a country which still depends, to a great extent, on expatriate teachers, is clear.

83. Similarly, in Bolivia WFP has supported a project for rural teacher training as part of a programme designed to improve the standard of rural education and to increase the number of teachers. Rural teachers' colleges have been increased, with assistance from Unesco and UNICEF, as well as from WFP. Funds released from the food budget as a result of the receipt of WFP commodities have gone partially to increase the number of scholarships for deserving students.

84. Youth training: 1/ The age group between 12 and 25 years represents an average of about a third of total population in developing countries. The provision of training and employment for youths, males and females, is one of the most pressing problems in developing countries which has important political, economic and social implications. The great majority of these young people live in rural rural areas and it is rural youth that is most disadvantaged. "In sheer numerical terms alone they constitute a tragic waste of human resources because most are uninvolved in development"". 2/

85. At the World Conference on Agricultural Education and Training, which was held in Copenhagen in 1970, the Director General of FAO pointed to " ... the situation of rural youth and the enormously important contribution which youth can make to rural development. We must ask ourselves how education and training can be geared more effectively to development needs in order that young people may be enabled to play a far greater part in agriculture and other forms of rural development". 3/

86. WFP has provided assistance for youth training schemes in a number of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific, and, especially, in Africa South of the Sahara. These schemes have a common objective. They attempt to increase the number of young people able to profit from whatever economic opportunities arise in their communities. Since training is usually provided at residential centres, the food aid supplied by WFP contributes to improving the diet provided at, as well as easing the financial burden of running, these centres.

87. Provision is made in some of these youth schemes for specific attention to be given to the training of young women. In the Central African Republic, the "Jeunesse Pionnière Nationale" was set up with the intention of organizing unemployed young people of both sexes in clubs which were to provide additional schooling, civic education, and courses in agricultural practices and home economics. In Botswana, youth brigades, which contain a homecraft section, have been set up to provide training in a wide diversity of skills, including cookery, gardening, arts and crafts. The brigades endeavour to cover as much of their costs as possible through the products of their training courses.

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1/ Nathalie D. Henry "Youth in Rural and National Development" in FAO, Planning Family Resources for Rural Development, Rome, 1972 (ESN:IDS/72/6).

2/ FAO, "Education and Training for Development" in The State of Food and Agriculture 1972, (Rome, 1972) p. 137.

3/ FAO/Unesco/ILO, Report of the Conference, Ru: AET/70/Vol. 1, pp. 78 - 79.

88. Young farmers' clubs have been established in Dahomey for youths between the ages of 10 and 18 years who are admitted with parental approval and support, notably through contributions in land. FAO has provided the services of an agricultural extension expert, ILO an expert in rural handicrafts, while FFHC has given financial assistance to these clubs. These clubs are considered to be successful largely because of the grass-roots nature of the training programmes which are based on the day-to-day activities of the participants: agriculture, livestock-raising and handicrafts. The number of clubs has grown from 12 in 1967 to 125 in 1971. At the same time, membership has increased from 185 to almost 2,000. There are certain clubs only for girls. WFP assistance has enabled the young people to remain in the field at midday instead of being compelled to return home for food. These clubs are reported to have helped to promote better farming practices at the village level as parents have accepted more readily the farming methods practiced by their children.

89. The Zambia Youth Service, which was established in 1964, provides a two year training course which includes training for girls in domestic science and in agriculture, in addition to academic education, physical education and para-military discipline. The main openings for the girls after training are in the police force and as assistant teachers in domestic science. The Service has received technical assistance from several countries. However, insufficient attention has been paid to staff training and to follow-up activities after training. Moreover, WFP could not continue assisting the Service on account of the para-military content of its training programme.

90. The Programme has also assisted youth training schemes in Guyana and Jamaica which made some provision for the training of girls. As with many such schemes, however, a major problem is that the level of vocational training is not high enough to ensure employment in skilled trades, while in those schemes where emphasis is placed on agricultural training, governments are usually unable to find the funds to create viable farm settlements to absorb a significant proportion of the trainees.

91. There is evidence that these youth training projects are more successful when they are closely coordinated with other government action in training and settlement activities, and where the ministries responsible are fully involved in the provision of technical advice and guidance. From this point of view, WFP's experience in support of a youth training scheme in Malawi has been perhaps the most profound and is of particular value for other countries.

92. The Malawi Young Pioneers movement was initiated in 1966 to tackle the problem of unemployment among youths and to train highly dedicated young men and women to form the spearhead of rural development. Training centres have been established at which youths undergo 10 month courses in local leadership and agricultural and pre-vocational training. Three centres have been specifically set up for girls who receive additional instructions in domestic science and nutrition. WFP rations not only reduces expenditure at the centres but also contribute towards improving the diet of the trainees. The majority of trainees return to their villages after training and help organize community development courses to supplement the work of the Government extension services by acting as demonstrators and by providing liaison between the extension workers and their local communities.

93. Agricultural training: At the World Conference on Agricultural Education and Training "... it was unanimously agreed that women play a key role in rural development, and the fact that female education had received scant attention in agricultural education systems was deprecated. Some universities had developed courses in home economics, but much greater attention must be given to the training of women who will be employed in extension work, community development work, the processing industries, administration, nutrition and home economics and in teaching". It was recognized that "... a vast

reservoir of untapped talent existed in the female population of developing countries and that agricultural education must play a leading part in the release of this potential if women were to play a full role in rural development". 1/

94. The Conference identified the role of rural girls and women in rural development as an area of special attention. "Both as agriculturalists who undertake most of the food cultivation in many countries and also as mothers, their potential contribution to rural development is very great indeed. In far too many cases, this potential has neither been realized nor developed through providing access, on an equal footing with men, to agricultural education and training. Initial trials in the training of girls in agriculture, combined with home economics subjects, and using them in extension services and teaching have been most encouraging. A feature of this decade must certainly be to open the opportunities of technical and vocational education and training, as well as employment in rural services, to girls and women of the countryside in order to enable them to make their full contribution, both in the home and in the community. As an investment in development, it would be difficult to think of a more important need". 2/

95. Very little emphasis has been given to formal and non-formal agricultural education for women despite the fact that they are often directly involved in agricultural, and especially food, production. For example, dairying is still largely the work of women in many developing countries and yet little effort has been given to the teaching of improved husbandry practices to women and girls. In India, for example, it is reported that "... of 5,000 Indian Dairy Diplomas (IDD) so far awarded only one has been to a woman". 3/

96. Few requests have been received for WFP assistance which involve the provision of agricultural training for girls and women. Similarly, of those requests received for agricultural training in general, it has rarely been questioned whether the training to be provided was to benefit females, as well as males, and whether it was appropriately designed both to improve the functions which they perform and to be timed to fit in when women are free from their numerous other tasks to benefit from it. The few examples serve to demonstrate, however, what can be done if females are consciously borne in mind when devising agricultural training programmes.

97. In Tunisia, training centres have been established in each governorate for the social promotion of illiterate young rural girls between 14 and 19 years of age. These rural centres are frequently housed in former farms converted for training purposes. Two five-month training sessions are given a year. In addition to basic literacy courses, trainees also receive instructions in basic home economics, hygiene and nutrition and practical work, including small livestock husbandry and gardening. The girls are also given training in the preparation and utilization of WFP foodstuffs. Contact is maintained with the trainees when they return home which encourages the application of what has been taught. Families also benefit from the courses through the trainees' example. WFP assistance helped in the training of over 2,000 girls and 90 teachers in 1971.

98. An agricultural secondary school has also been functioning in Tunisia for girls who have completed their primary education. This school provides three years training

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1/ FAO/Unesco:ILO, op.cit. p. 23.

2/ FAO/Unesco:ILO, op.cit. p. 68.

3/ A.W. Marsden, "Dairy training for rural women", World Annual Review, FAO, No. 1, 1972, p. 36.

leading to a technical diploma. Six centres for training rural girls have also been set up which give a 12 month general training course with special emphasis on practical farming.

99. In Iraq, the rural development centres which have been established provide agricultural extension for women with special reference to kitchen gardens and the raising of small livestock. In Senegal, rural vocational training has been expanded, with UNDP support, for farmers and their wives. WFP has supported the expansion of vocational training in Chile where an Institute for Rural Education provides training, mostly for young men and women in rural areas, at various levels of skills in training centres established for this purpose.

100. Non-agricultural training: There are even fewer projects supported by the Programme which provide training specifically for women in non-agricultural pursuits. Again, the examples that can be quoted may serve to inspire action in other countries. The Marastoon Institute in Kabul, Afghanistan, provides food, clothing and shelter for orphans, old age people, invalids and the physically and mentally handicapped. Amongst the training provided at the Institute, women are taught a trade. The earnings from the goods produced through the training courses go largely to supporting its financial requirements. WFP assistance, along with that supplied from many other sources, is helping the Institute to provide an opportunity for under-privileged people to learn a trade and to achieve a measure of financial independence, and, at the same time, assists the Government perform a humanitarian function.

101. In Tunisia, pre-vocational centres for women in the urban areas provide reorientation courses directed toward employment in the hotel and tourist industry.

102. Syria offers perhaps the best example of WFP support for non-agricultural training for women. Rural handicraft training centres started their activities in 1962 with the aim of introducing new handicraft activities in rural areas in order to diversify the sources of income, increase individual incomes and raise the standard of living. Detailed studies were undertaken before deciding on the type of training to be given and the resources needed for this purpose. It was decided that carpet and rug-making were the most promising lines that could be introduced in the rural communities. The basic equipment needed was not expensive and could be made locally; the raw material was also available locally; and training could be carried out over a relatively short period. Sewing and embroidery were also found to be promising and feasible occupations. Local technical experience was available for these occupations.

103. These centres are purely vocational training institutes. From the beginning of 1971, the management of the sewing and embroidery centres has been transferred to the Union of Arab Syrian Women which has its own instructors. Most trainee girls at the carpet-making courses are aged from 12 to 20. Most girls selected come from agricultural families and have had two or three years of primary schooling, although some are illiterate. No problems have arisen concerning the attraction of girls to the centres, partly because of the provision of WFP rations during attendance, and the drop-out and absentee rates are low. Production has increased to the extent that the centres can now supply fully the Syrian market and about 20 percent of output is exported. The centres have proved to be a valuable source of employment for rural girls. It is estimated that about 3,000 were employed between 1968 and 1972. The income of the girls employed has also increased significantly above the national per caput level and has made a substantial addition to the total income of their families. Thought must now be given to the changing status of these girls in their families and in their community as a result of their relatively high income, in a society that is male dominated.

104. As in the case of educational projects (see para. 70), the extent to which training projects can be supported by the Programme will depend on the level of its resources. Since 1973, the shortage of resources has forced the Programme to give lower priority to training projects other than those contributing to agricultural development. Until the resource position improves, the priority position of these projects will remain unchanged. 1/ To the extent that training schemes can be supported by the Programme, the Executive Director will endeavour to ensure that women receive equal opportunity with men and that the type and timing of the training provided is also appropriate for them. He also intends to work closely with the appropriate UN technical agencies to identify and support priority areas for the training of women. Particular attention appears to be warranted for non-formal types of training which can be provided within the framework of food-for-work projects, especially those related to agricultural and rural development. This approach would have the added advantage that the training would take place within the community, thereby avoiding the elitist attitude which is often the product of formalized institutional training which results in denuding the rural areas of some of their most talented people.

#### IV. EMPLOYMENT, PRODUCTION AND INCOME

105. It has been suggested that to create more paid jobs for women is one of the most effective ways to raise their status, reduce their drudgery and increase national output 2/. There are certain common features of women's work in developing countries 3/. There is a heavy concentration of work in rural areas and in agricultural work. The overwhelming role of women in food crop production in Africa, for example, has been noted 4/ where it is estimated that 80 percent of the women live and work in rural areas and where they perform at least 60 percent of the agricultural work. Women tend to occupy jobs requiring little formal education or skills. Cultural constraints often restrict their employment opportunities. Where job opportunities are severely limited and the rate of economic growth is outstripped by the rate of population growth, women's chances of obtaining wage-earning employment are much reduced, even where policies of non-discrimination have been laid down.

106. A major impact of WFP aid has been in rural development, a sector which, because of slow economic returns as compared with other sectors, has not been able to attract government and private investment, as well as conventional, foreign, financial investment and aid. The reduction of rural unemployment and underemployment, by enabling governments to undertake rural works projects which they otherwise could not afford to implement, or could not undertake on the same scale, has been a significant contribution of the Programme. 5/ This, in turn, has helped generate increased income, contributed towards an improvement in the distribution of incomes and stimulated demand for goods and services and derived demand for labour to produce them. The direct and indirect benefits of women's employment, production and income cannot be measured as data are not available. An indication may be derived, however, from figures of the total numbers benefitting from WFP assistance in food-for-work projects.

1/ See document WFP/IGC: 27/5, para. 48.

2/ Arthur Lewis, The Theory of Economic Growth, London, 1956.

3/ ILO (1974), op.cit., pp. 67 - 69.

4/ See Peter F. M. McLoughlin (Editor), African Food Production Systems, The John Hopkins Press, 1969, p. 312, and Ester Boserup, op.cit., Chapter 1.

5/ See E. Costa, "Ten Years of Multilateral Food Aid for Development: The World Food Programme and Employment", ILO, International Labour Review, March 1973.

107. By 30 September 1974, about half (\$745 million) of total WFP resources committed to development projects had been allocated to 300 directly productive agricultural projects and project expansions throughout the developing world. The Programme's aid has contributed to providing about 2.4 million jobs through these projects since it became fully operational in 1963. At the same time 7.3 million dependents are anticipated to be reached as WFP assistance is provided as family rations either as part-payment of wages or as an incentive for self-help, voluntary labour.

108. The participation of women in land development and improvement projects, as well as crop production and diversification schemes, is not known precisely although from observation it is assumed that it can be significant. Their participation in the implementation of settlement schemes (see paras. 60 and 61), is an important factor for the viability of such schemes and for the promotion of balanced national rural development programmes <sup>1/</sup>.

109. The provision of food-for-work has been a powerful stimulus for community improvement on a self-help basis. This is a sphere in which women can contribute and benefit on an equal basis with men. Particularly in countries where the tradition of certain types of community work is strong, as for example in several Latin American countries, in Sri Lanka, or in many parts of Africa, women work as partners with men to improve local amenities by helping to build schools, health centres, roads, improved water supplies and sanitary facilities, etc. Women find in such multipurpose community development enterprises an opportunity for social contact, greater mobility, a voice in community affairs and a greater acceptance of the claim of equality of status with men as partners in development. The Programme had approved assistance to 61 community development projects, involving about seven percent (\$114 million) of total development aid, by 30 September 1974. Approximately 1.7 million participants and 5.6 million dependents are anticipated to benefit from WFP assistance through this type of project.

110. Women have directly participated in, or indirectly benefitted from, other social and economic infrastructure works including public health activities (see paras. 58 and 59), building and construction works (see paras. 55 and 57) and the development and improvement of communications. About five percent (\$82 million) of total WFP commitments to development projects have been committed to 61 such work schemes involving 426,000 workers and 1.5 million dependents. Again data are not available as to the number of women benefitting from such projects.

111. With rare exceptions, the WFP-supported food-for-work projects have been planned, formulated and implemented with scant regard for the employment of women, their production and income. Inadequate attention has generally been given to the fact that in many of the projects assisted, women make up a significant proportion of the labour force. The net result is that neither has the development potential of the supported activity been fully realized, nor has the status of women, and their contribution to development, locally and nationally, been fully enhanced.

112. In some projects where women make up a high proportion of the work force owing to the absence of their men-folk, (as in countries in southern Africa where men migrate to South Africa for wage labour), productivity has been low because of lack of either appropriate tools and equipment, or of training, or of the strength of women workers. In many projects, the women workers often carry out the more menial, unskilled tasks, for which they often receive lower wages than their male counterparts. The introduction of agricultural technology and mechanization has generally neither involved women, nor decreased their work schedules. Moreover, if technical and mechanical innovations are not integrated into both male and female agricultural tasks, a work overload for

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<sup>1/</sup> Economic Commission for Africa, The Economic Role of Women with Special Emphasis on the Implementation of Rural Development Schemes in Africa, Addis Ababa, 1973.

women can result. 1/ Poultry schemes introduced into a rural community without the provision of adequate water supplies can increase the task of carrying water which the women perform. Agricultural schemes have sometimes imposed a greater burden on women who have, for instance, to transport cash crops to market. 2/ The introduction of cash crops can also significantly alter the sharing of functions and resources within the family, often to the detriment of the women-folk.

113. Taking cognizance of the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women 3/; the Programme of Concerted International Action for the Advancement of Women for the Second Development Decade 4/; and the World Food Conference resolution on "Women and Food" 5/; and noting the proposed "Plan of Action" and "Declaration" for the "Promotion of Equality of Opportunity and Treatment for Women Workers" which the Sixtieth Session of the International Labour Conference will consider in June 1975 for integrating women in the workforce, giving them equal access to vocational guidance and training and making necessary changes in laws and practices 6/, the Executive Director intends to encourage governments, as well as the cooperating organizations in the UN system, to pay particular attention to women's role in work projects submitted to the Programme for assistance, and to the benefits they derive, as well as to the need for any training they may require to fulfil the tasks asked of them.

#### V. THE ADDED DIMENSION

114. Food aid is a form of assistance which has considerable potential as a means of stimulating the improvement of women's status and for enhancing the social modernization process. Women are the main handlers and preparers of food. They often play an important role in organizing and distributing food in community development projects. In many communities, women run the WFP-supported school feeding schemes spontaneously on their own initiative. It is they who primarily manage the utilization of the family rations which are distributed in the food-for-work projects. And they were often the prime distributors of livestock feed rations when such commodities were available to the Programme. Women have also received instruction and demonstration in the utilization of WFP foodstuffs, particularly when unfamiliar commodities have been supplied, and have also been shown how to integrate them into the local diet. WFP's role as a stimulator of social change can also be seen in the opportunities created for women to be trained and to become wage-earners in projects assisted by the Programme.

115. In these various ways, the provision of food aid has drawn women, often unconsciously, into the decision-making process at the local, and sometimes regional, levels when projects are planned and implemented. More needs to be done, however, to formalize and institutionalize this process so that, consciously, women are fully and directly involved in decision-making concerning all aspects of the planning and implementation of WFP-supported projects. They can also play a particularly useful role in the evaluation process in measuring the effectiveness and efficiency of what has been done. This relates especially to the use of the food aid provided itself where rations are consumed in the home and when assessment of the short-term nutritional and longer-term consumer education and food habit effects is made.

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1/ Clio Presvelou, op.cit., p. 22.

2/ David A. Mitchnik, The Role of Women in Rural Development in the Zaire, Oxfam, July 1972, p. 10.

3/ See Annex IV.

4/ United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2716 (XXV), Twenty-fifth Session 1970.

5/ Resolution VIII, see Annex II.

6/ ILO (1974), op.cit., Chapter III.



## VI. FUTURE ACTION

116. Although WFP-assisted projects for the supplementary feeding of mothers and pre-school children have been specifically planned to benefit women, there are relatively few education and training projects in which attention has been paid to women's needs, and even fewer in production activities. Much remains to be done, commensurate with the Programme's resource position, if WFP is to make a real contribution to improving the status of women and to their integration in development. This will depend, in the first instance, on a more conscious effort, following a fundamental change of attitude on the part of sovereign governments, to plan for the inclusion of women's interests in WFP-assisted activities. It is their responsibility to take the necessary steps effectively and tangibly to improve the status of women, and to increase their role in the development process. All aid agencies and programmes, including WFP, can play their part in fortifying these efforts during the scrutiny of requests for assistance, by a careful monitoring of the implementation of assisted projects, and through a thorough evaluation of their results, which, in turn, can help in improving the planning and management of similar projects, as well as the effective implementation of the assisted activity.

117. With the exception of mother and child feeding projects, rarely has it been questioned whether females would be involved in, and benefit from, projects submitted for WFP assistance during technical scrutiny by the cooperating international organizations and the WFP Secretariat, and by the IGC during deliberations concerning the approval of WFP aid. In only a relatively small percentage of evaluation reports is reference made to women and their role and benefits from the supported project.

118. In common with the organizations and agencies within the UN system, a relatively small proportion (16 percent) of WFP headquarters professional staff are women, the highest level attained being P4 1/. There is only one female WFP field officer out of a total of 113. In common with other policy making bodies within the UN system, attendance of women at the IGC has always been modest, representing less than 10 percent of total attendance, with the largest number of female participants in absolute and relative terms representing the Non-Governmental Organizations 2/.

119. A more conscious effort must be made to plan for the inclusion of women's interests in development projects and by the international community increasing the Programme's resources so that multilateral food-aid operations can be expanded for the benefit of women in spite of inflation and rising costs. The highest priority for the allocation of WFP aid has been given to the feeding of vulnerable groups, and to projects which can effectively contribute, through labour-intensive works and training, to increased agricultural production. 3/ These priorities confirm one of the fundamental tenets of the Programme's philosophy which is that human resources, particularly the health of mothers and children, and the development of a country's own resources, especially for increasing food production, in which women play a significant part, are the foundations on which national development programmes should be built.

120. Taking inspiration from the 1973 (Percy) Amendment to the Foreign Assistance Act (Section 113), which states that development assistance programmes supported by the United States should be administered with particular attention to the integration of women into the economics of foreign countries, and from the instructions that have

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1/ See Table 3. The average for the UN system was 13 percent in 1971 with a range between 3 (UPU) and 27 (GATT) percent. See Alexander Szalai, The Situation of Women in the United Nations, UNITAR Research Report No. 18, 1973, p. 11.

2/ See Table 4.

3/ See document WFP/IGC: 27/4, para. 48.

gone out to USAID missions to implement this Amendment, the Executive Director has instructed that WFP should adopt similar guidelines to ensure that conscious efforts are made for project planners to think of the participation of women in the development process.

121. Administrative circulars have therefore been issued to all staff engaged in project management at WFP headquarters and to all field officers, stressing that, within ~~the~~ established priorities, two important factors should be considered in developing WFP projects:

- (a) the relationship between women's actual and potential roles as development participants, and the activity's objectives; and
- (b) the impact of the activity on women.

122. Planners, advisers and implementers should bear in mind the participation of women in the development process and take advantage of the strategic role of women in the economy, especially in rural areas where, in addition to domestic duties and child rearing, they do much of the agricultural work.

123. Planners have been asked to take into account the following points highlighted in the instructions to USAID missions, adapted here to WFP:

- (i) take specific note of the impact of projects on women;
- (ii) ensure that women's interests are not harmed inadvertently, that women benefit equally with men and that projects do not carry inappropriate assumptions about women's roles in their design;
- (iii) make certain that where women and girls play an important part in a sector or activity, that role is clearly understood and provided for, including participation by women in the design, implementation and evaluation of the project;
- (iv) identify opportunities for speeding up the integration of women in the national economy in the sectors where WFP supports projects; and
- (v) take steps to fill in any knowledge gaps about the role of women in the areas of country development in which WFP does or can support projects.

124. What is called for is not general statements, but specific indications of ways in which WFP can be instrumental in bringing women into the development process as equal partners with men.

125. Apart from projects specifically designed to benefit women, such as nutrition and training connected with MCH centres and school feeding, there are many others where the effect on women has not been taken into account, or has not been taken into account sufficiently. It cannot be assumed that the effect will automatically be beneficial to women.

126. Particular attention is drawn to the following specific ways in which the principles upheld in the United Nations resolution concerning IWY can be observed in WFP projects:

- (a) to seek the inclusion of women in agricultural training courses, and see that women are encouraged to join them;

- (b) to promote steps whereby women can benefit from agricultural extension services and are not debarred from access to loans and credits, particular when they are the operative head of the family, or from involvement in cooperative development and other such schemes, such as those for cash-crop cultivation and the provision of improved seeds, fertilizers, insecticides and improved tools;
- (c) to promote nutrition education for women as a component of feeding projects;
- (d) to encourage the participation of women in literacy classes, particularly those for functional literacy;
- (e) to encourage the inclusion of women in training for non-traditional occupations, and in training for citizenship and leadership;
- (f) to promote the principle of equal remuneration for equal work in food-for-work projects where women participate, both with regard to the food ration and the cash wage component;
- (g) to maintain contact with existing women's organizations and encourage their involvement in the implementation of WFP projects, as an impetus to improved services and the increased participation of women.

127. All those involved in planning and executing WFP projects should be alert to the need to give fuller opportunities to women in social and economic development. Field personnel have an important role to play in identifying possibilities for WFP action in this respect. Other organizations cooperating with WFP are being informed of WFP's guidelines in respect of action to improve the status of women. They are being invited to pay particular attention in their technical scrutiny to the possibilities of providing technical and other assistance in support of such action and to enhancing the status of women and their contribution to development through the WFP-supported project on a continuing basis.

128. Although International Women's Year has stimulated the Programme to adopt these guidelines, <sup>1/</sup> it is stressed that they will become a built-in feature of WFP project planning work in the future.

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<sup>1/</sup> As well as to undertake other activities, see Annex V.

ANNEX I

Resolution Adopted by the General Assembly  
(on the report of the Third Committee (A/8928))  
3010 (XXVII). International Women's Year

The General Assembly

Considering that twenty-five years have elapsed since the first session of the Commission on the Status of Women was held at Lake Success, New York, from 10 to 24 February 1947, and that this is a period which makes it possible to take stock of the positive results obtained,

Bearing in mind the aims and principles of the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 2263 (XXII) of 7 November 1967,

Recognizing the effectiveness of the work done by the Commission on the Status of Women in the twenty-five years since its establishment, and the important contribution which women have made to the social, political, economic and cultural life of their countries,

Considering that it is necessary to strengthen universal recognition of the principle of the equality of men and women, de jure and de facto, and that both legal and social measures have to be taken by Member States which have not yet done so to ensure the implementation of women's rights,

Recalling that its resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, containing the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, includes among the goals and objectives of the Decade the encouragement of the full integration of women in the total development effort,

Drawing attention to the general objectives and minimum targets to be attained in the course of the Second United Nations Development Decade, as defined by the Commission on the Status of Women and adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 2716 (XXV) of 15 December 1970,

Considering that, with those ends in view, the proclamation of an international women's year would serve to intensify the action required to advance the status of women,

1. Proclaims the year 1975 International Women's Year;

2. Decides to devote this year to intensified action:

(a) To promote equality between men and women;

(b) To ensure the full integration of women in the total development effort, especially by emphasizing women's responsibility and important role in economic, social and cultural development at the national, regional and international levels, particularly during the Second United Nations Development Decade;

(c) To recognize the importance of women's increasing contribution to the development of friendly relations and co-operation among States and to the strengthening of world peace;

3. Invites all Member States and all interested organizations to take steps to ensure the full realization of the rights of women and their advancement on the basis of the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;

4. Invites Governments that have not yet done so to ratify as soon as possible Convention (No. 100) concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value, adopted by the International Labour Organization in 1951;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with Member States, specialized agencies and interested non-governmental organizations, within the limits of existing resources, a draft programme for the International Women's Year and to submit it to the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-fifth session in 1974.

2113th plenary meeting  
18 December 1972

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ANNEX II

World Food Conference Resolution VIII

Women and food

The World Food Conference,

Considering that the major part of the required increase in food production must occur in the developing countries if the present tragedy of starvation and malnutrition for uncounted millions is not to continue,

Recognizing that rural women in the developing world account for at least fifty percent of food production,

Knowing that women everywhere generally play the major role in procurement and preparation of food consumed by their families,

Recognizing the important role of the mother in the health development of the future generation through proper lactation and furthermore that mothers in most cultures are the best source of food for their very young children,

Reaffirming the importance of the World Health Assembly resolution on lactation in May this year,

1. Calls on all governments to involve women fully in the decision-making machinery for food production and nutrition policies as part of total development strategy;
2. Calls on all governments to provide to women in law and fact the right to full access to all medical and social services particularly special nutritious food for mothers and means to space their children to allow maximum lactation, as well as education and information essential to the nurture and growth of mentally and physically healthy children;
3. Calls on all governments to include in their plan provision for education and training for women on equal basis with men in food production and agricultural technology, marketing and distribution techniques, as well as consumer, credit and nutrition information;
4. Calls on all governments to promote equal rights and responsibilities for men and women in order that the energy, talent and ability of women can be fully utilized in partnership with men in the battle against world hunger.

ANNEX III

Twenty-Seventh World Health Assembly Resolution  
Infant Nutrition and Breast-Feeding

The Twenty-seventh World Health Assembly,

Reaffirming that breast-feeding has proved to be the most appropriate and successful nutritional solution for the harmonious development of the child;

Noting the general decline in breast-feeding, related to sociocultural and environmental factors, including the mistaken idea caused by misleading sales promotion that breast-feeding is inferior to feeding with manufactured breast-milk substitutes;

Observing that this decline is one of the factors contributing to infant mortality and malnutrition, in particular in the developing world; and

Realizing that mothers who feed their babies with manufactured foods are often unable to afford an adequate supply of such foods and that even if they can afford such foods the tendency to malnutrition is frequently aggravated because of lack of understanding of the amount and correct and hygienic preparation of the food which should be given to the child,

1. RECOMMENDS strongly the encouragement of breast-feeding as the ideal feeding in order to promote harmonious physical and mental development of children;
2. CALLS the attention of countries to the necessity of taking adequate social measures for mothers working away from their homes during the lactation period, such as arranging special work timetables so that they can breast-feed their children;
3. URGES Member countries to review sales promotion activities on baby foods and to introduce appropriate remedial measures, including advertisement codes and legislation where necessary;
4. URGES the Director-General to intensify activities relevant to the promotion of breast-feeding, to bring those matters to the notice of the medical profession and health administrators and to emphasize the need for health personnel, mothers and the general public to be educated accordingly; and
5. REQUESTS the Director-General to promote and further support activities related to the preparation and use of weaning foods based on local products.

Fourteenth plenary meeting, 23 May 1974  
A27/VR/14

ANNEX IV

United Nations Declaration on the Elimination  
of Discrimination Against Women

(General Assembly Resolution 2263 (XXII) of 7 November 1967)

In November 1967 the General Assembly unanimously adopted the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. This international instrument sets forth general standards in all fields which the Commission on the Status of Women has studied since its inception in 1946 and calls for measures to guarantee their implementation.

The substantive articles of the Declaration deal with: political rights (article 4); right to a nationality (article 5); rights under civil law (article 6); discriminatory provisions under penal law (article 7); traffic in women (article 8); educational rights (article 9) and economic rights (article 10).

Article 10, which deals specifically with women workers, reads as follows:

1. All appropriate measures shall be taken to ensure to women, married or unmarried, equal rights with men in the field of economic and social life, and in particular:
  - (a) the right, without discrimination on grounds of marital status or any other grounds, to receive vocational training, to work, to free choice of profession and employment, and to professional and vocational advancement;
  - (b) the right to equal remuneration with men and to equality of treatment in respect of work of equal value;
  - (c) the right to leave with pay, retirement privileges and provision for security in respect of unemployment, sickness, old age or other incapacity to work;
  - (d) the right to receive family allowances on equal terms with men.
2. In order to prevent discrimination against women on account of marriage or maternity and to ensure their effective right to work, measures shall be taken to prevent their dismissal in the event of marriage or maternity and to provide paid maternity leave, with the guarantee of returning to former employment, and to provide the necessary social services, including child-care facilities.
3. Measures taken to protect women in certain types of work, for reasons inherent in their physical nature, shall not be regarded as discriminatory.



ANNEX V

World Food Programme Activities During International  
Women's Year 1975

The following activities are being undertaken by WFP to mark International Women's Year (IWY).

1. At the opening of the Twenty-seventh Session of the Intergovernmental Committee on 17 March 1975, the Executive Director will make a statement on IWY. This will be followed by short statements from the representatives of one developed and one developing country.
2. A Report by the Executive Director on "WFP and Women's Role in Development" (WFP/IGC: 27/15) which examines the Programme's past, present and future role as regards the advancement of women, will be presented to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Intergovernmental Committee in March 1975.
3. WFP will participate in the UN Conference for IWY to be held in Mexico City (June 23 to 4 July 1975), contributing a section to the UN Secretary-General's report and a special background paper on the contribution of food aid to the improvement of women's status.
4. The second issue of "WFP NEWS" in 1975 will be on women's role in development.
5. One, and possibly two, publications on women's role in development in the "WFP in Action" series are planned for 1975.
6. A set of five wallsheets on women's role in development.
7. A film on women's role in rural development is planned, probably in collaboration with a national TV network. When completed (possibly only in 1976), this would be available on loan.
8. A film-strip on women in rural development is in preparation.
9. All WFP stationery being used in 1975 carries the Women's Year symbol.
10. A set of guidelines for project planners and implementers is going out to both headquarters and field staff indicating how WFP aid might be used to speed up the fuller integration of women in national development programmes and to ensure that both planners and implementers make this a matter of conscious concern.
11. Apart from purely WFP activities, a number of joint WFP/FAO undertakings are being planned. These include a handbook with the tentative title of "Strategies and guidelines for planning programmes" which will examine practical ways in which women can be integrated into projects for agricultural and rural development, a series of radio programmes and a multivision exhibit at FAO headquarters.
12. An in-depth evaluation of WFP assistance and the role of women in development will be undertaken with the cooperation of a consultant.

Table I: WFP-SUPPORTED APPROVED MOTHER AND CHILD SUPPLEMENTARY FEEDING PROJECTS  
(Position as at 30 September 1974)

Region/Country a/	Status b/	No. of Beneficiaries c/		Duration of project (months)	Nutritive Value of WFP Ration d/ (g/person/day)		Commodities Provided			
		Mothers	Infants and pre-school children		Calories (units)	Proteins (g)	Cereals	Blended cereals cheese protein foods	Milk	Oil, fats sugar, jams, fruits
<b>AFRICA SOUTH OF SAHARA</b>										
Botswana* 324	T	44 000	63 000	72	300/300	16/16	x	x	x	x
Botswana* 324 exp.	O	45 000	63 000	60	280	17		x		
C.A.R. 478	O	-	7 000	73	540	25	x	x	x	x
Congo (Bras.) 521	O	1 590	3 180	60	1500/600	77/37	x	x	x	
Malawi 525	O	30 000	100 000	36	230	20			x	
Mauritius 649	O	20 000	50 000	40	650/500	30/27	x		x	
Mauritania* 055 Exp. 1	T	-	150	36	550	17	x		x	
Mauritania* 055 Exp. 2	O	-	220	48	1300	35	x	x	x	x
Nigeria* 601Q	T	10 000	10 000	4	1400	64	x	x	x	x
Nigeria* 601Q Exp.	T	5 000	5 000	4	1100*	50	x	x	x	x
Nigeria* 654Q	T	400	400	4	1700/175	100/35	x	x	x	x
Nigeria* 666Q	T	16 000	16 000	8	1200*	44	x	x	x	
Nigeria* 666Q Exp.	T	16 000	16 000	4						
Senegal* 125 Exp.	O	-	2 600	42	1300	50	x	x	x	x
Somalia* 387 Exp.	O	-	1 700	36	2200	60	x		x	x
Swaziland 646	O	25 000	40 000	49	210	21			x	
Togo* 402	O	-	4 500	60	140	14			x	
Togo* 402 Exp.	O	-	5 500	60	200	12		x		
Burundi* 687	O	1 733	1 733	48	525/300	20/16	x	x	x	x
Uganda 689	O	70 000	35 000	24	210	21			x	
Zambia 679	O	-	80 000	60	240	18		x	x	
Chad 329	T	75 900	24 050	60	950/580	37/27	x	x	x	x
Liberia* 491	T	-	10 000	36	700	38	x	x	x	x
Lesotho* 230	T	107 000 g/	...	18	250	11			x	x
Lesotho* 230 Exp. 1	T	...	19 000	11	210	20			x	
Lesotho* 230 Exp. 2	T	15 000	19 000	30	216	22			x	
Lesotho* 230 Exp. 3	O	15 000	30 000	84	240	24			x	
Cameroon* 773	O	-	1 800	48	105	10.5			x	
Ivory Coast* 765	O	-	3 000	60	105	10.5			x	
Mali* 779	O	-	53 000	60	860	33	x	x		
Nigeria* 744	O	10 000	3 900	24	350/560	13/21	x	x		x

Region/Country a/	Status b/	No. of Beneficiaries c/ (Average per year)		Duration of project (months)	Nutritive Value of WFP Ration d/ (g/person/day)		Commodities Provided			
		Mothers	Infants and pre-school children		Calories (units)	Proteins (g)	Cereals	Blended cereals cheese protein foods	Milk	Oil, fats sugar, jams, fruits
Tanzania* 2026/Q Exp.	O	...	...	17	...*	...*	...	...	...	...
Dahomey* 2096	A	83 000	33 000	48	185	10		X		
Niger* 2072	A	-	600	60	300	17	...	...	...	...
Guinea Bissau 2157/Q	A	20 000	-	6	1040	26	X	X		X
O.A.U. (Angola) 2154/Q	A	12 500	25 000	12	940/625	25/24	X	X	X	X
O.A.U. (Mozambique) 2155/Q	A	12 500	25 000	12	940/625	25/24	X	X	X	X
<b>ASIA AND PACIFIC</b>										
Afghanistan* 423 Exp.	A	-	105	48	1600	43	X	X		X
Afghanistan* 599	O	131 682	136 225	60	1300/700	47/27	X		X	X
China 429	T	-	53 440	20	850	32	X	X	X	X
China 523	T	2 500	5 500	13.5	1900/650	74/32	X	X	X	X
India 798/Q	T	...	...	77 days	...	...		X		
Indonesia 617	O	64 565	236 025	60	175/200	13/16			X	
Pakistan 505	O	-	1 600	60	670	27	X		X	
Nepal 709	O	20 000	50 000	60	315/280	22/19		X	X	
Korea 737	O	-	30 000	36	1000	34	X	X		X
Singapore* 725	O	-	21 400	60	100	7		X	X	
<b>LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN</b>										
Chile 2119/Q	( O	-	16 265	12	150	7	X		X	X
Chile 2119/Q g/	( O	-	13 735	12	170	14	X		X	X
	( O	-	148 110	12	105	3	X		X	X
	( O	-	335 590	12	130	3	X		X	X
	( O	-	...	...	...	...	...		X	X
Colombia 095	T	9 500	7 500	24	400	21		X	X	X
Colombia 095 Exp. 1	T	12 000	28 000	18	400	21		X	X	X
Colombia 095 Exp. 2	T	14 000	26 000	16	400	21		X	X	X
Colombia* 549 g/	O	84 960	330 046	72	582/670	26/40	X	X	X	X
					582/555	26/29				
					582/369	26/17				
					582/582	26/27				

Region/Country a/	Status b/	No. of Beneficiaries c/		Duration of project (months)	Nutritive Value of WFP Ration d/ (g/person/day)		Commodities Provided			
		Mothers	Infants and pre-school children		Calories (units)	Proteins (g)	Cereals	Blended cereals, cheese, protein foods	Milk	Oil, fats, sugar, jams, fruits
Costa Rica 732	O	2 300	7 500	60	1450/900	57/40	x	x	x	x
Ecuador 433	O	4 400	9 200	60	1400/1000	62/55	x	x	x	x
Haiti 2104	A	20 000	12 000	24	850	35	x	x		x
Mexico 307	T	-	250 000	48	105	10.5			x	
Mexico 307 Exp.	O	75 000	150 000	60	500/350	25/20		x	x	x
Paraguay* 633	O	16 000	29 720	54	210/114	21/14			x	
Peru 552	O	7 000	18 000	60	2200/1450	62/36	x	x	x	x
Venezuela 691	O	-	400 000	60	213	16.2			x	

**NORTH AFRICA AND NEAR EAST**

Iran 627	O	25 000	50 000	60	210/140	21/14			x	
Lebanon* 524	O	-	2 080	60	1100	76	x	x	x	x
Sudan* 001	T	...	10 759	36	...	...			x	
Sudan* 001 Exp.	T	10 000	...	36	...	...			x	
Sudan* 117	T	-	1 350	60	1214	37	x	x	x	x
Syria* 229	T	-	160	60	2220	67	x	x	x	x
Syria* 229 Exp.	O	-	13 400	60	1100	27	x		x	x
Tunisia* 289 Exp.	T	-	600	71	1900	74.5	x	x	x	x
Yemen Arab Rep. 501 Exp. A	A	-	900	48	1850	62	x	x		x

... Not available.

\* Minor part of project related to mother/child feeding.

a/ There are no projects in this category in Europe (southern)

b/ A - Not yet operational; O - operational; T - terminated.

c/ According to Plans of Operation or IGC Project Summary.

d/ When two figures given, the first refers to mothers and the second to children.

e/ Including pre-school children.

f/ Including mothers.

g/ Different rations provided to pre-school children at different types of centres.

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**Table 2: APPROVED PROJECTS CONTRIBUTING TO THE IMPROVEMENT  
OF NUTRITION, HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

(Position as at 30 September 1974)

Type of Project	No. of projects <u>a/</u>	No. of countries	Anticipated No. of beneficiaries <u>b/</u>	Total WFP cost <u>c/</u> (US\$ millions)	Percent of total WFP commitments to all development projects
- Hospital feeding	40	28	295 000	33.9	2
- Animal husbandry and milk production	81	65	-	176.0	11
- Environmental improvement	34	16	194 000	36.8	2
- Public health works	4	3	12 000	2.4	*
- Settlement and resettlement	69	33	617 000	141.0	9
- Assistance to refugees	27	13	325 000	15.2	1
- Reconstruction and rehabilitation	79	29	6 323 000	71.7	5
- Emergency operations <u>d/</u>	190	80	54 000 000 <u>e/</u>	153.0	-

\* less than one percent.

a/ Projects and project expansions wholly or partly in the type of project concerned.

b/ From Plans of Operation or IGC Project Summaries.

c/ For projects largely or wholly in the category concerned only.

d/ At 31 December 1974.

e/ Estimated.

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Table 3: WFP PROFESSIONAL STAFF BY SEX:  
HEADQUARTERS AND FIELD

(as at 19.12.74)

	<u>Headquarters</u>		<u>Field</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Executive Director	1	0	0	0
Deputy Executive Director	1	0	0	0
D-2	3	0	0	0
D-1	4	0	0	0
P-5	11	0	17	0
P-4	22	1	53	0
P-3	11	2	21	0
P-2	8	6	16	1
P-1	1	3	5	0
Totals:	<u>62</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>112</u>	<u>1</u>

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Table 4: ATTENDANCE AT ICC SESSIONS BY SEX

		<u>26th</u>	<u>25th</u>	<u>24th</u>	<u>23rd</u>	<u>22nd</u>	<u>21st</u>	<u>20th</u>	<u>15th</u>	<u>10th</u>	<u>5th</u>	<u>1st</u>
<u>Committee Member</u>	M	50	53	54	56	53	56	48	62	50	39	43
<u>Delegates</u>	F	3	4	4	4	2	2	2	0	1	2	1
<u>Observers</u>	M	42	46	33	53	47	43	44	50	45	26	7
	F	3	2	2	2	2	1	4	4	1	1	0
<u>Representatives</u>	M	7	6	8	12	4	5	18	14	12	10	0
<u>of S.G. and D.G.</u>	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
<u>UN + Agencies</u>	M	5	6	7	6	7	5	6	6	7	10	6
<u>Representatives</u>	F	1	1	2	1	0	1	0	2	0	1	1
<u>Intergovernmental</u>	M	3	3	2	2	2	3	2	4	3	6	0
<u>Organizations</u>	F	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Representatives</u>												
<u>Non-Governmental</u>	M	8	7	5	7	6	5	3	10	12	7	0
<u>Organizations</u>	F	3	4	2	6	4	4	3	4	1	0	0
<u>Observers</u>												
<b>Total:</b>	M	115	121	109	137	119	117	126	146	129	98	56
	F	11	11	10	14	8	8	10	11	3	4	2

Fundação Cuidar o Futuro