

WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

ENCOUNTER FOR JOURNALISTS

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, 11 JULY 1980

Morning Session

10:00 a.m.

Opening of the Encounter by:

10:05 a.m.

Welcome statement by:  
H.E. Lise Østergaard

10:30 a.m.

Keynote speech by:  
Mrs. Lucille M. Mair

DISCUSSION

Fundação Cuidar o Futuro

12:30 p.m.

Lunch break

Afternoon Session

2:30 p.m.

Topic:

THE SITUATION OF WOMEN IN THE AREAS OF HEALTH  
EDUCATION AND ~~DEVELOPMENT~~ EMPLOYMENT

HEALTH:

Speaker: Mrs. Mercedes Pulido de Briceno

EDUCATION:

Speaker: Mrs. Vida Tomsic

EMPLOYMENT:

Speaker: Mrs. Krishna Patel

DISCUSSION



SATURDAY, 12 JULY 1980

Morning Session

10:00 a.m.

Topic:

SPECIAL SITUATION OF PALESTINIAN WOMEN,  
WOMEN IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND REFUGEE WOMEN

PALESTINIAN WOMEN:

Speaker: Mrs. Thoraya Sharif

WOMEN STRUGGLING FOR LIBERATION  
AND WOMEN UNDER APARTHEID:

Speaker: Mr. Teurai Ropa

WOMEN REFUGEES THE WORLD OVER:

Speaker: Mr. Abdel Rahman El Beshir

(DISCUSSION)

12:30 p.m.

Lunch Break

## Fundação Cuidar o Futuro

Afternoon Session

2:30 p.m.

Topic:

WOMEN AND POLITICS AND WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT

WOMEN AND POLITICS:

Speaker: Mrs. Beverley Manley

GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT AND ITS IMPACT ON WOMEN:

Speaker: Mrs. Maria de Lourdes Pintassilgo

(DISCUSSION)

4:30 p.m.

CLOSING REMARKS



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## PROVISIONAL LIST OF TOPICS

### 1. Situation of women in the areas of health, education and employment

#### (a) Health:

Obstacles encountered in improving the health status of women:

- unequal and rapid development
- massive rural-urban migration
- lack of financial resources
- limited access to rural areas
- persistence of social, religious and cultural attitudes

Priority areas for action in the 80s:

- promotion of primary health care
- family planning programmes using safe fertility regulation methods
- food and nutrition programmes
- improved hygiene, sanitation and access to water supplies and shelter

#### (b) Education:

Obstacles to literacy, to access to equal education, vocational training and same curricula:

- lack of financial resources
- inadequate staffing and facilities
- socio-cultural attitudes

Priority areas for action in the 80s:

- abolishing differences in illiteracy between girls and boys
- changing traditional roles assigned to men and women
- free and compulsory education
- co-education
- increased enrolment of women in science and mathematics

#### (c) Employment:

Recent trends in women's economic activities and employment opportunities:

- over-burdening and underpayment of women in rural areas
- lack of access to land, credit and technology in rural areas
- under employment of women in urban areas
- concentration of women in marginal jobs
- use of women as "cheap labour" in newly created export industries
- non recognition of value of work performed at home
- the effect of the recent international economic crisis





Priority areas for action in the 80s:

- improved employment opportunities and conditions for women in rural areas and urban slums
  - legal regulations to protect reproductive function of women
  - redefinition of the term "worker" to reflect women's unpaid labour in GNP
  - Implications for the current international economic debate of women's actual contribution to the development process
2. Special situation of Palestinian women, women in southern Africa and refugee women
- (a) Palestinian women:
- the social and economic situation of Palestinian women inside and outside the occupied territories ~~area~~ in the context of the broader political and historical issues of the Palestinian problem
  - special measures of assistance in the areas of employment, education, family service and health care, legal aspects.
- (b) Women struggling for liberation and women under apartheid:
- the role of women in the struggle for liberation in Zimbabwe and their role in the reconstruction of the country
  - the situation of women under apartheid in southern Africa and measures to assist them
- (c) Women refugees the world over:
- uprooting and radical change of lifestyle
  - disintegration of the family
  - woman's new position in certain areas as sole head of household and provider
  - sexual intimidation in emergency situation where law and order are not respected
- Measures of assistance:
- immediate measures to ensure that women and children have a share in the relief provided
  - integration in country of asylum (assistance in achieving degree of self-reliance)
  - voluntary repatriation wherever possible (facilitating repatriation and rehabilitation in country of origin)



3. Women and politics and women and development:

(a) Women and politics:

- women in decision making positions
- women in the planning process
- effectiveness of existing national machinery (women's bureaux and/or consultative bodies)
- role of women's organizations and their participation in the planning process

(b) Global development and its impact on women

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