

IHT
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Success Summary at Cairo

Reuters

Here is a summary of some of the main successes scored by the different parties at the population conference in Cairo:

MUSLIMS

- Inserted a clause saying implementation of the document should be "consistent with... full respect for the various religions and ethical values and cultural backgrounds" of nations. Islamic groups had warned that the West was using the Cairo conference to impose its views.
- Removed "other unions," as in "marriage and other unions," from the text because they were worried it would give implicit backing to homosexual relationships.
- Removed a passage on sexual rights in the document because they feared it would promote promiscuity.
- Removed a reference to an "alternative to early marriage" for young women because some Muslim states said this would encourage prostitution.
- Changed a call for "equal" treatment in inheritance rights to the less-defined "equitable." Under Islamic law a woman receives only half the legacy her brother receives.
- Won greater emphasis for parental rights

and responsibility over the issue of adolescent sexual health and guidance.

ROMAN CATHOLICS

- Won greater emphasis for passage saying abortion should not be promoted as a means of family planning.

WESTERN GOVERNMENTS AND FEMINISTS

- Won recognition of "unsafe abortion" as a major public health concern and a commitment that governments would deal with its medical complications.
- The focal point of the text, "empowerment of women," stayed at the center of the conference program. It also urged prohibition of "female genital mutilation," or female circumcision, and the condemnation of rape.
- Kept in a reference to reproductive rights of "couples and individuals" against protests from Muslim countries that said the rights should only apply to married couples.
- Western delegates say the text still refers to families "in their various forms," compensating for the loss of the term "other unions."
- Kept out explicit reference to a right for migrant family reunification, which some countries feared would open a deluge of immigrants.

Fundação Cuidar o Futuro

