



**Administrative Committee  
on Coordination**

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REPORT OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON PROGRAMME AND  
OPERATIONAL QUESTIONS ON ITS SEVENTH SESSION

(New York, 19-22 September 1995)

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## INTRODUCTION

1. The Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions (CCPOQ) held its seventh session at United Nations Headquarters, New York, from 19 to 22 September 1995. The agenda for the session is contained in annex III to the present report. The list of participants is contained in annex IV.

### I. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION (ACC)

#### A. Follow-up to International Conference on Population and Development

2. The Committee transmits to the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) for its consideration the report of the second meeting of the Inter-Agency Task Force of the International Conference on Population and Development (ACC/1995/POQ/CRP.23) (New York, 25 July 1995). The results of the Task Force's intensive work over a short period of time is to be seen, however, more in its products, namely, the four sets of draft guidelines to guide the resident coordinator system in the operationalization of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development: 1/

(a) Common approach to national capacity-building in tracking child and maternal mortality;

(b) Women's empowerment;

(c) Basic education with special attention to gender disparities;

(d) Reproductive health.

3. Moreover, a Working Group on International Migration has been established and will meet, in the first instance, in Geneva in October 1995.

4. A Common Advocacy Statement on Social Issues, prepared by the Working Group on Policy-related Issues, was circulated and will be submitted to ACC through the Organizational Committee (OC).

5. At CCPOQ's request, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) agreed to effect a translation of the guidelines into the various working languages of the system in order to ensure their effective diffusion and use both within and outside the United Nations system.

6. CCPOQ noted the importance of ensuring the most effective use of the guidelines which address the operationalization of programmes in key substantive areas. In addition to the original 14 participating organizations, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the United Nations Volunteers Programme (UNV) undertook to provide contributions and advice in this respect. The Inter-Agency Task Force

would periodically monitor the use of the guidelines to assess their usefulness and ascertain need for adjustment.

B. Relief-to-development continuum

7. The Committee wishes to bring to the attention of ACC its extensive discussion on the means of improving the linkage of relief to development as well as the coordination of the system's involvement in post-conflict situations (paras. 26-34).

8. As a first step, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations (the Department for Development Support and Management Services and the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, both of the United Nations Secretariat) have agreed to initiate, with the involvement of all organizations concerned: (a) the articulation of a comprehensive integrated post-conflict framework and strategy; (b) the development of criteria and operational guidelines for involvement of the United Nations system in post-conflict recovery; (c) a review of the United Nations system's capabilities and modalities for ensuring a rapid and effective response to post-conflict recovery needs including the next item (d); (d) a review of new sources and methods of funding or contributions in kind, new forms of partnerships and partnerships with other actors. This effort will be undertaken as complementary to other initiatives currently under way or mandated by other United Nations legislative bodies.

C. Science and technology for development

9. CCPOQ further reviewed its coordination responsibilities in this field, in the light of OC's decision to return to the issue at its second regular session of 1995, and decided that CCPOQ should respond and react to specific requests, as and when the need arose, on issues outside the ambit of other coordinating mechanisms (para. 37).

D. Subcommittee on Rural Development

10. CCPOQ reviewed the report and programme of work of the Subcommittee (paras. 56-57) and recommends to ACC the adoption of the revised terms of reference contained in annex I of the present report.

E. Subcommittee on Nutrition

11. Taking note of the fact that the Subcommittee had requested clarification by ACC at its forthcoming session of the special situation of the Technical Secretary of the Subcommittee on Nutrition, CCPOQ considered itself unable to formulate an opinion on the Subcommittee's recommendation for the extension of the titular's contract for a period of two years.

F. Subcommittee on Drug Control

12. CCPOQ reviewed the report and programme of work of the Subcommittee (paras. 64-66) and recommends to ACC the adoption of the revised terms of reference contained in annex II of the present report.

13. CCPOQ refers to ACC for its favourable consideration the Subcommittee's recommendation that measures should be taken to ensure that all United Nations conferences were held in a smoke-free environment.

G. ACC standard classification of programmes

14. CCPOQ confirmed its intention to undertake, through an ad hoc working group of concerned organizations, a review of the standard classification of programmes, focused on refinement of the sub-sectors, for application in 1996 (para. 67 (a)).

H. Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) reports

15. In the discussion on this item (paras. 71-73), concern was expressed by CCPOQ members regarding the time and effort expended by organizations in the preparation of Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) reports. In addition to recommending that JIU reconsider the need for the current study of meetings, workshops and seminars related to operational activities, the Committee decided to invite ACC to explore mechanisms by which collective inter-agency bodies could express a view on the timeliness and relevance of the topics submitted for consideration by JIU.

I. Proposed agenda, date and venue for the next session of the Committee

16. CCPOQ recommends to ACC that its next regular session be held in Geneva, in the week of 4-8 March 1996, with the following agenda:

(a) Programme and policy issues:

- (i) Collaboration with NGOs and other partners in civil society;
- (ii) Poverty eradication;
- (iii) Linking relief to development;
- (iv) Revision of the ACC standard classification of programmes;
- (v) Division of labour (as required);

(b) Operational activities for development:

- (i) Follow-up to the triennial comprehensive policy review;

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- (ii) Role and functioning of the resident coordinator system; (report of the Office of United Nations System Support and Services (OUNS) and Working Group);
  - (iii) Report of the Working Group on the programme approach;
  - (iv) Report of the Inter-Agency Working Group on Evaluation;
- (c) Other matters:
- (i) JIU reports and future work programme;
  - (ii) Outcome of the mid-term global review of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s;
  - (iii) Nomination of CCPOQ Chairperson.

## II. WORK OF CCPOQ

### A. Action taken and decisions adopted

17. The Committee endorsed the designation of office-bearers, as well as the dates, venues and agendas, of the following ACC subcommittees:

(a) Subcommittee on Rural Development

Chairman: Mr. G. Gordillo de Anda (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO))  
Twenty-fourth session: Geneva, spring 1996

(b) Subcommittee on Nutrition

Chairman: Mr. R. Jolly (United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF))  
Twenty-third session: Accra, 26 February-1 March 1996

(c) Subcommittee on Statistical Activities

Chairman: Mr. F. Mehran (International Labour Organization (ILO))  
Secretary: Mr. R. Roberts (United Nations)  
Thirtieth session: New York, 7-9 May 1996

(d) Subcommittee on Drug Control

Chairman: Mr. M. Ali (United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP))  
Secretary: Mr. G. Day (UNDCP)  
Fourth session: Vienna, 4-6 September 1996

18. The Committee agreed to new terms of reference for its former Task Force on Support Costs under the new designation of Task Force on Financing Modalities

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for Operational Activities. Mr. E. Hein (FAO) was elected as Chairman for an initial period of two years.

19. The Committee furthermore agreed that the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) should be included in the information flow of CCPOQ documentation and invited to participate on an informal basis in meetings and activities of the Committee, when such meetings and activities were considered relevant to their programmes.

## B. Summary of discussions

### 1. Programme coordination issues

#### (a) Modalities of follow-up to global conferences and development of common system-wide responses

20. Referring to the background note prepared by the Secretary for this item, the Chairperson noted that the Secretary-General, in consultation with ACC, would be elaborating proposals on specific modalities for follow-up to individual global conferences and that CCPOQ should therefore return to this subject at its next session.

21. The representative of the United Nations recalled that the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 1995, had invited the Secretary-General to offer suggestions for possible cross-cutting themes, common to major international conferences and/or to an overall review of the implementation of the programme of action of a United Nations conference, for review by the Council's coordination segment. He invited the Committee to make suggestions on appropriate themes for the substantive session of 1996 of the Council.

22. The Committee suggested that the gender issue, as a cross-cutting theme addressed by recent and forthcoming global conferences, could be a possible theme for the 1996 coordination segment of the Economic and Social Council. Subsequent substantive sessions could deal with themes such as poverty eradication and food security.

#### (b) Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development

23. The representative of UNFPA noted that the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) on the follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development had met on two occasions, in December 1994 and in July 1995. The focus of the work of IATF was to promote system-wide collaboration at the country level. Several working groups were convened to deal with key substantive issues. At its July 1995 meeting, the Task Force had decided to establish a new working group, under ILO leadership, to address the issue of international migration. This group will convene its first meeting at ILO headquarters in Geneva on 19 October 1995.

24. The Task Force had prepared guidelines for the resident coordinator system aimed at the identification of key issues for follow-up of three goals of the



International Conference on Population and Development: universal access to basic education; reduction of infant, child and maternal mortality; and access to reproductive health and family planning. The guidelines will be revised as appropriate on the basis of feedback from the field. Fourteen organizations had participated in the work of the Task Force. A common advocacy statement on social issues, prepared by the Working Group on Policy-related Issues, was distributed. Comments, if any, should be sent to the IATF secretariat by 25 September. The statement will then be sent to ACC through OC.

25. In the discussion on this item, the necessity for the guidelines' focusing on practical operational initiatives in a collaborative manner at the country level was noted, as was the need for monitoring and evaluation of their application by the resident coordinator system. Provision should therefore be made for the reconvening of the working groups, as appropriate. Emphasis was also placed on the need to involve civil society in the follow-up. The national committees established for the follow-up of the International Conference on Population and Development would, for example, provide an opportunity for participation by non-governmental organizations. A number of organizations that had not participated in the work of the Task Force expressed their interest in contributing to the follow-up, namely, IAEA (on reproductive health), ITU (on basic education in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and UNV (on women's empowerment and strengthening institutional capacity at the local level).

(c) Relief-to-development continuum

26. The Committee expressed its appreciation for the conference room paper documenting the experiences of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the World Food Programme (WFP) and UNDP on their respective experiences in linking relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities, as well as the recommendation of the International Colloquium on Post-Conflict Reconstruction Strategies (Burg Schlaining, June 1995).

27. The ensuing debate highlighted a number of salient issues: (a) there were several facets to the issue of linking relief and development activities, not least because of the specific nature of each emergency and the difference between a post-conflict situation and a natural disaster situation; (b) the distinction between relief and development was often artificial, particularly in countries where emergencies (such as drought) were of a repetitive nature; (c) development and reconstruction activities in post-conflict situations must be underpinned by a political resolution to the conflict and the restoration of confidence in civil society; (d) coordinated action among agencies, donor partners, non-governmental organizations and national and regional political communities in strategic planning, resource mobilization and implementation was essential to the political credibility of United Nations operations and in enhancing the impact of programmes; (e) the potentially disruptive effects of external relief operations in undermining local capacities and in marginalizing disadvantaged groups including women underscored the need for finding new gender-sensitive modalities of delivering relief that built on rather than replaced local capacities; (f) it was important to address not only human needs, but also the reconstruction of the institutional infrastructures servicing those

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needs; (g) there was recognition of the critical need in the United Nations system for a strategic framework and operational guidance in implementing the concept of linking relief, rehabilitation and development activities; (h) the management structure for handling post-conflict situations varied with the specificities of each country situation; (i) early-warning systems and preventive action were important in stemming humanitarian crises and in pre-empting the need for costly remedies in the form of long-lasting relief/reconstruction assistance; (j) there was an apparent need for a "third window" for mobilizing finance to underpin post-conflict reconstruction activities.

28. With a view to enhancing the United Nations system's capabilities in operationalizing the relief-to-development continuum, the Committee identified a number of areas for possible action: (a) raising public awareness of the issues, possibly through the publication and dissemination of a report highlighting the lessons of experience to date on both success factors and constraints faced; (b) identification of the system's capacity, comparative advantage and division of labour among relief and development partners; (c) identification of early-warning signals and modalities for information-sharing as the basis for preventive action by the system; (d) involvement of the development agencies much earlier in the United Nations process of response to emergencies, including development of criteria for their intervention; (e) establishment of a strategic framework incorporating the dimensions of humanitarian relief and institutional rebuilding both as a basis for consolidated appeals and as a common basis for raising resources, in addition to individual country programme modalities so as to operationalize the continuum concept.

29. The Committee took note of (a) the current coordination responsibilities assigned to various entities for developing system-wide responses, notably the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat for emergency humanitarian relief and (b) the inter-agency consultations conducted on various aspects of the question, for example, by UNDP, the Department for Development Support and Management Services of the United Nations Office at Vienna, and the Department of Humanitarian Affairs-led Consultations on Early Warning of New Flows of Refugees and Displaced Persons, as well as (c) the strategic alliances already formed between key actors within the system, such as between UNHCR and UNDP, for ensuring coordinated and effective action in specific areas of the reconstruction and rehabilitation effort.

30. Furthermore, it was noted that the complex nature of a post-conflict situation had created challenges for international assistance not previously covered by the United Nations system (reconstruction of national institutional infrastructures, restoration of security, guarantee of human rights, conduct of elections, de-mining, and so on).

31. The Committee considered that there was an urgent need to identify and collate the technical capacities within the United Nations system as a whole for dealing with various aspects of the early-warning/preparedness/relief/reconstruction/development responses required. This work could be based on the Department of Humanitarian Affairs compendium of types of assistance required in a disaster/conflict situation and translated into a matrix of actors involved.

32. Noting furthermore the need for a more effective integrated management of United Nations system political, humanitarian and development assistance, the Committee recommended that a study be carried out, on the basis of case-studies of different post-conflict operations, of lessons learned, with a view to identifying (a) successful management structures, (b) suggested criteria and operational guidelines for involvement of the United Nations system and (c) the basic components of rehabilitation strategy.

33. The Committee recognized that the post-conflict situation was the most critical case facing the United Nations system and required priority attention. As a first step, UNDP and the United Nations (the Department for Development Support and Management Services and the Department of Humanitarian Affairs) agreed to initiate, with the involvement of all concerned organizations (a) the articulation of an integrated post-conflict framework and strategy and (b) the development of criteria and operational guidelines for involvement of the United Nations system in post-conflict recovery, as well as (c) a review of the United Nations system capabilities and modalities for ensuring a rapid and effective response to post-conflict recovery needs including (d) new sources and methods of funding or contributing in kind, new forms of partnerships and partnerships with other actors. This effort would be undertaken as complementary to other initiatives currently under way or mandated by other United Nations legislative bodies.

34. A further colloquium involving all interested United Nations system organizations would be convened to review the above-mentioned elements and to report to CCPOQ.

(d) Poverty eradication

35. The Committee took note of the work accomplished to date on this issue and the positive response given to the Working Group report on the work of the United Nations system on poverty alleviation. It was decided to pursue these efforts on the basis of a three-day brainstorming workshop to be convened at the ILO International Training Centre in Turin at the end of January 1996 to generate ideas on practical issues for follow-up. Some of the issues proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the session were criteria for identification of poverty groups; the geographical structures for such action; identification of the basic programmes; an understanding of the reasons for successes and failures of poverty programmes; and strategies for extending basic social services to the poor. The Committee agreed that the agenda of the brainstorming session should be highly selective, in order to avoid duplication. The Secretary was accordingly requested to collect suggestions from concerned bodies, including the ACC subcommittees, for review beforehand. The forthcoming workshop on the programme approach at the Turin Centre could provide an opportunity for deliberations among CCPOQ members on the agenda. A careful choice needs to be made of countries representative of major country classifications. The composition of participants should similarly ensure an appropriate representation from all relevant sectors.

36. On the basis of the ideas generated by the brainstorming session, a working group - under UNDP leadership and with the participation of interested organizations - would be convened in February to elaborate proposals on

practical modalities, programmes and strategies for enhancing the United Nations system's work on poverty eradication.

(e) Science and technology for development

37. In reviewing this issue, the Committee recognized the role of various bodies, the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development and the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat, with primary responsibility for coordinating United Nations system activities in science and technology, and the system of task managers for science (UNESCO) and technology (the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development) for implementing chapters 34 and 35 of Agenda 21. 2/ In order to rationalize coordinating responsibilities on this issue, it was agreed that CCPOQ should respond and react to specific requests from intergovernmental and/or other inter-agency bodies as and when the need arose for system-wide collaborative action on specific science and technology issues outside the ambit of the work of the principal coordinating bodies, particularly the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development.

2. Operational activities for development

(a) Implementation of General Assembly resolution 47/199

38. The Committee reviewed the issues on which further work was being conducted or envisaged by the system, as listed in document ACC/1995/POQ/CRP.28 and as brought to the attention of the Committee by the representative of the United Nations.

Resident coordinator system

39. The Committee emphasized the need for a clear understanding of responsibilities for the role and functioning of the resident coordinator system. The decision taken by the Secretary-General to entrust the Administrator of UNDP with overall responsibility for assisting him in improving the coordination of operational activities for development, the creation of the Office of United Nations System Support and Services (OUNS), and the financial support approved by UNDP for resident coordinators had provided an important boost to the strengthening of the resident coordinator system. It was incumbent upon CCPOQ, on behalf of ACC, to continue to provide policy guidance on the system's role and functions, including in follow-up to substantive decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as to exercise a monitoring role in this regard.

40. It was noted in this respect that the assessments and suggestions requested by the Administrator from ACC members on the functioning of the resident coordinator system, as also envisaged in the ACC statement on the resident coordinator system, would be referred to CCPOQ, through its Working Group, for consideration.

41. The Chairman of the Working Group on the Resident Coordinator System reported on the meeting held on 18 September 1995. Two draft notes had been

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circulated by OUNS relating to the modalities of UNDP financial support to the resident coordinators and to the format and substance of the annual reports, with a request for comments from CCPOQ members by end-October. The possibility of a collective review of these comments by the Working Group, within the context of other CCPOQ events, would be explored.

42. The Chairman noted that the Working Group had virtually completed its programme of work, except for the question of collaboration with the World Bank, and requested guidance on issues to be addressed. It was suggested that these should include those listed in the report of the Secretary-General on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (A/50/202-E/1995/76) on (a) appropriate administrative and financial decentralization; (b) full involvement of all organizations, with or without field representation, in the resident coordinator system; and (c) introduction of new information technologies. The Committee furthermore agreed that the Working Group should (a) explore processes for widening selection of resident coordinators/resident representatives beyond the Joint Consultative Group on Policy (JCGP) organizations, (b) study means of providing supplementary resources drawn from the entire United Nations system to support the resident coordinator system, (c) pursue means of collectively reviewing, at field level, substantive activities prior to their approval by individual organizations and (d) continue efforts at ensuring complementarity with programmes of the World Bank, particularly in developing country strategy note (CSN) and policy framework paper (PFP) linkages.

43. The World Bank representative noted that the memorandum of understanding with the United Nations provided the basis of his organization's collaboration with the system.

#### Country strategy note

44. An update on the status of preparation of CSNs was circulated to members. It was noted that this topic was extensively covered in the report of the Secretary-General on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (A/50/202-E/1995/76) and that the Committee would return to the issue on the basis of the General Assembly's decisions.

#### Programme approach

45. The Secretary reported on preparations for an inter-agency workshop on the programme approach in Turin on 11-13 October 1995. The United Nations, UNDP, WFP, UNICEF, FAO and ILO confirmed their intention to participate. Other members were asked to advise of their interest in participating by end-September at the latest.

#### National execution

46. The Committee noted the importance of keeping this issue under constant review. It was agreed that the proposed review of the common understanding should await the publication of UNDP's extensive evaluation of its experience with national execution, and that individual organizations should meanwhile be

asked to contribute papers on their own experience, in order to develop an information base. The Turin Centre was furthermore invited to solicit the views of country teams within the context of the field coordination workshops.

#### Simplification and harmonization of rules and procedures

47. There was general recognition of the importance accorded to this issue by Member States. The extensive variety of mandates and functions within the United Nations system was complicated by the move to increased decentralization, as well as by different instructions on the part of governing bodies and donor countries. It was noted that JCGP had adopted a block-by-block approach to the development of a common manual and that progress was being made in establishing pragmatic work programmes in a number of programmatic, administrative and financial areas. The Secretary was accordingly invited to establish an inventory of these areas for further review by the Committee. It was agreed that the simplification of procedures should initially focus on reducing the reporting burden on recipient countries.

#### Decentralization

48. The Committee noted that there had been considerable progress by individual organizations in the delegation of authority. The problem that now arose was whether staff capacities at country level were sufficient to meet the programming and implementation requirements.

#### Monitoring and evaluation

49. The Committee agreed that the concerns of the General Assembly in this field, as expressed in its resolutions 44/211 and 47/199, should be referred to the Inter-Agency Working Group on Evaluation (IAWG) for review and for the formulation of recommendations to CCPOQ at its next session. The need for the early identification of related benchmarks to facilitate proper impact assessment was noted. The World Bank advised that it had developed effective monitoring and evaluation systems and could contribute to such an exercise.

#### Operational activities training

50. The Committee considered and endorsed the report of the 10th meeting of the Advisory Panel on operational activities training. The continued need for participation in such training from the Bretton Woods institutions and non-field-represented organizations was underlined. All organizations were also urged to meet the costs of such training from operational funds, if necessary, as previously suggested by ACC.

51. The Committee took note of the draft terms of reference for the evaluation of the National Capacity Strengthening training programme and invited the Turin Centre to finalize them on the basis of the comments of the CCPOQ members. The evaluation was due to be carried out in early 1996.

### Fellowships

52. The Committee agreed to refer the proposed study of United Nations system fellowships to the Joint Inspection Unit.

#### (b) Resource flows and trends for operational activities

53. The Committee reviewed a consultancy report on ways and means of developing a concise, clear and comparable picture of major resource flows and trends in operational activities, both through use of existing reporting modalities in the United Nations system and in relation to other reports on official development assistance (ODA) resources.

54. Expressing its support for this initiative, the Committee emphasized that such an analysis should be complementary to existing reports and should not create additional reporting processes. The comparisons drawn with resource flows to the European Union and regional development banks were noted with interest, as well as the potential for including other categories such as non-governmental organizations.

55. A number of technical issues were raised on the handling of cost-sharing, donations in kind, and the breakdown of World Bank resources, which it was recognized required further analysis. The Committee accordingly agreed to refer to the (redesignated) Task Force on Financing Modalities for Operational Activities the issue of examining appropriate reporting formats that would assist the Committee in related policy and management assessments.

### 3. Reports of subcommittees

#### (a) Subcommittee on Rural Development

56. In taking note of the report of the Subcommittee, CCPOQ expressed its satisfaction with the Subcommittee's revised terms of reference (TOR) which it endorsed with the recommendation that paragraph 1 of the TOR should contain an explicit reference to ecosystems, and to infrastructure development. The revised TOR are shown in annex I of the present report.

57. CCPOQ endorsed the Subcommittee's agenda for its twenty-fourth session and work programme for 1995-1996 with the recommendation that (a) infrastructure development, especially transport and communication and (b) rural settlements (in follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)) be included as additional items in the work programme. It was also requested that the issue of the follow-up to global conferences be featured as a standing item in the agenda and work programme of all ACC subcommittees.

58. The Committee endorsed the nomination of Mr. G. Gordillo de Anda (FAO) as Chairman for a two-year period to end in December 1996, as well as the dates and venue for the twenty-fourth session of the Subcommittee (Geneva, spring 1996). It also took note of the interim arrangements for filling the post of Secretary.

(b) Subcommittee on Nutrition (SCN)

59. The Committee endorsed the appointment of Mr. Richard Jolly (UNICEF) as Chairman of SCN for a two-year period to end in December 1997. It also agreed to (a) the convening of the twenty-third session of SCN at Accra, Ghana from 26 February to 1 March 1996 and (b) the agenda of the session with the addition of the item on the follow-up to global conferences. With regard to the renewal of the contract of SCN Technical Secretary, the Committee noted that the United Nations representative at SCN had undertaken to bring the matter to the attention of OC at its forthcoming session.

60. Several members emphasized that, as a subsidiary body of ACC, SCN should not lose sight of its primary role as a coordinating body. It should therefore not infringe on programme activities that were the mandates of United Nations agencies constituting its membership. In clarification, the Secretary of the Subcommittee noted that SCN was not engaged in discharging programme activities as such since its programmatic activities were limited to the production of reports on substantive issues. Concern was expressed by a number of CCPOQ members over some aspects of the terms of reference of an ongoing evaluation of SCN activities initiated by bilateral donors, which, *inter alia*, touched on questions concerning SCN's administrative structure. It was recalled that decisions on such questions were subject to the approval of the executive body of SCN, comprising United Nations agencies.

(c) Subcommittee on Statistical Activities

61. The Committee took note of the report of the Subcommittee and endorsed the nomination of Mr. F. Mehran (ILO) as Chairman of the Subcommittee for a two-year period extending to May 1997. It endorsed the continuation of the role of Mr. R. Roberts (United Nations) as Secretary of the Subcommittee as well as the dates, venue and provisional agenda of the thirtieth session of the Subcommittee (New York, 7-9 May 1996), with the addition of the item on the follow-up to global conferences.

62. In response to the ILO proposal to include the Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT) as an observer in the Subcommittee on Demographic Estimates and Projections, it was noted that, as was consistent with OC rules, decisions on participation of observers were at the discretion of the concerned ACC bodies.

63. A question was raised on the possible contribution of the Subcommittee to the measurement and monitoring of poverty. In reply, a representative of the United Nations Statistics Division noted that while the Subcommittee was not in a position to provide absolute measures of poverty - which were dependent on government decisions on agreed definitions - it could none the less contribute in providing social indicators on a basis that would be comparable and could be aggregated across regions. In this connection, he noted that the Statistical Commission had decided to set up an Expert Group on the Measurement of Poverty to stimulate a more proactive contribution. The Committee was informed that a common data system task force had been convened to facilitate the elaboration of common guidelines for the production of social indicators.



(d) Subcommittee on Drug Control

64. The Committee took note of the report of the Subcommittee and endorsed the nomination of Mr. Mehdi Ali (UNDCP) and Mr. Gale Day (UNDCP) to serve respectively as Chairman and Secretary for a two-year period ending in 1997. It also endorsed the dates, venue and agenda for the fourth session of the Subcommittee (UNDCP, Vienna, 4-6 September 1996) on the understanding that the Subcommittee might need to make appropriate arrangements for consultations prior to its regular session in the event that drug control was selected as a theme for the 1996 high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council.

65. Concerning the arrangements for designation of task managers for preparing thematic plans of action for the operation of the System-Wide Action Plan (SWAP) on Drug Abuse Control, the Committee was informed that subject to confirmation, the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD), instead of UNDP, would serve as task manager for the task force on socio-economic consequences of illicit cultivation, trafficking and demand, while the World Health Organization (WHO) would replace UNICEF as lead agency on the task force on street children. UNDP indicated its interest in participating in the task force on alternative development in zones of illicit cultivation. Moreover, the Committee recommended that the task force on rural youth transmit its plan of action to the Subcommittee on Rural Development.

66. The Committee endorsed the proposed new terms of reference for the Subcommittee, as contained in annex II of this report, for approval by ACC.

4. CCPOQ administrative issues

(a) Report of the Secretary

67. The Committee considered the Secretary's report of activities since the Committee's first regular session of 1995 (ACC/1995/POQ/CRP.28) and agreed on the following elements:

(a) To conduct a revision of the ACC standard classification of programmes in late 1995/early 1996 for submission to the Committee's first regular session of 1996. The exercise would consist first of a consultation by mail but an ad hoc working group of selected organizations would have to be foreseen for early 1996 to reconcile the various proposals. In this connection, the representative of UNHCR expressed his organization's concern with the publication, in partial form only, of the report of ACC on programmes and resources of the United Nations system for the biennium 1994-1995 (E/1995/64). He pointed out that the omission of the United Nations and related bodies from the document created a misleading impression and that it was only through a close reading of the document that it could be understood that an addendum would be forthcoming. It was agreed that the United Nations should be requested to provide the missing information as a matter of urgency and that the report should be reissued as a single integrated document;

(b) That ACC should be advised, with reference to the letter of the Secretary-General of 27 March 1995, that the level of representation at CCPOQ

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and the balance and interaction between the programmatic and operational aspects of the Committee's work programme were now deemed satisfactory;

(c) That the Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and UNOPS should be included in the information flow of CCPOQ documentation and invited to participate on an informal basis in meetings and activities of the Committee, when such meetings and activities were considered relevant to their programmes.

(b) Task Force on Support Costs

68. The Committee took note of the report of the Task Force and approved its continuation under the new designation of Task Force on Financing Modalities for Operational Activities to reflect its broadened mandate on general financing and resource flow issues. It also approved the nomination of Mr. Eckhard Hein (FAO) as Chairman and the new terms of reference (TOR) of the Task Force to read as follows:

"To provide, within the rapidly evolving context for operational activities of the United Nations system, a forum for analysis and discussion of issues related to modalities for financing of those operational activities. This would involve the preparation of recommendations to CCPOQ on cross-organizational issues such as:

Development of harmonized support cost reimbursement concepts and systems;

Development and use of results of common costs analysis and measurement;

Integration of newly established global funds into the system-wide funding structure of operational activities;

Resource flows and trends on operational activities;

Exchange of experience on other sources of funds in relation to the modalities referred to above.

The Task Force shall be open to all CCPOQ members."

69. The Committee decided that the Task Force should derive its mandate from and report to CCPOQ and that its outputs should be timebound. It was also noted that the Task Force would work, in a focused manner, on a few specific issues at a time, with flexible participation of organizations concerned and their relevant technical staff. Some additional issues suggested for examination by the Task Force were recovery of overheads on extrabudgetary programmes; and modalities of dealing with exchange rate fluctuations and with non-convertible currencies in extrabudgetary contributions. The Chairperson noted that the TOR were illustrative only and that CCPOQ could exercise considerable flexibility in referring issues to the Task Force. The Task Force was requested to interact with the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Questions) (CCAQ (FB)) on an ad hoc basis on issues of common

interest. The CCPOQ secretariat would provide secretariat services for the Task Force.

(c) Future programme of work

70. The Committee reviewed and endorsed a general programme of work for 1995-1996 on the understanding of the need to adapt the programme as and when new issues arose. Suggestions were made to broaden the consideration of the policy issue on the implications of focusing priority attention on least developed countries so as to include the issue of how to adapt programmes and resource allocations to different groups of countries in different stages of development including the question of graduation. In the area of programmatic issues, the suggestion was made to include the Secretary-General's initiative on Africa and the issue of gender.

5. Other matters

(a) JIU reports

71. With regard to the JIU report on United Nations system common premises and services in the field (JIU/REP/94/8), the Committee noted that the United Nations would prepare the consolidated draft ACC comments on the basis of comments received from members and would, exceptionally, seek clearance of those comments by correspondence. It urged the rapid finalization by the responsible authorities of the draft consolidated comments for its consideration.

72. Regarding the JIU request for information from agencies for data on meetings, workshops and seminars related to operational activities, many members were of the view that this was a resource-intensive exercise that imposed unnecessary burdens on many agencies and would divert available resources. The Committee strongly urged that JIU be asked to reconsider the need for this study.

73. The Committee furthermore decided to invite ACC to explore mechanisms by which collective inter-agency bodies could express a view on the proposed selection of topics by JIU prior to the launching of the studies.

(b) Briefings on conferences

74. In his briefing on the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), the Assistant Director-General of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) noted the decision of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference at its second session (Nairobi, 24 April-5 May 1995) to allow non-governmental organization participation at the Conference through the forum of Committees. The drafting of the global plan of action, a collaborative effort of all partners including non-governmental organizations, and private sector and local authorities, was moreover under way. Financing for the Conference was derived from multilateral and other bilateral sources, including private industry and the Ford Foundation. The main themes of the conference were "Housing for all" and the organization of settlements in the twenty-first century. The objectives of the conference were fourfold: (a) to

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raise public consciousness of the fact that housing and its organization were essential to social progress; (b) to find ways of financing shelter; (c) to arrive at indicators for measuring progress through the establishing of a global database on shelter; (d) to establish legislation and the enabling environment to facilitate rights and access to shelter.

75. The representative of FAO briefed the meeting on the preparations for the World Food Summit which would be convened in Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996. The aims of the Summit were to renew political commitment to the eradication of hunger and malnutrition and the achievement of food security for all through the adoption of concerted policies and actions at the global, regional and national levels. Some 80 heads of State or Government had agreed to support the Summit. The preparatory work would be conducted through normal scheduled sessions of FAO's governing bodies, regional conferences and other meetings in order to keep costs to a minimum. The preparatory phase would involve broad-based consultations with Governments, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and with the private sector.

#### Notes

1/ Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

2/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

Annex I

SUBCOMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT: TERMS OF REFERENCE

The ACC Subcommittee on Rural Development shall:

Promote inter-agency cooperation and collaboration in the development of concepts, approaches and strategies in sustainable rural development with a particular focus on the eradication of rural poverty, the interlinkages between urban and rural poverty, the impact of poverty on fragile ecosystems, gender issues, the promotion of people's participation and empowerment, large-scale migration and displacement of population, and the development of infrastructure, inter alia, in transport and communications;

Ensure practical follow-up and coordination on issues related to rural development and rural poverty eradication in general as well as those specified in global conferences and intergovernmental bodies;

Strengthen United Nations system capacities in developing more consistent, harmonized and refined socio-economic indicators and data-collection methods for the purposes of programme development, training, monitoring and evaluation of rural development field-based activities, as well as poverty eradication policies and programmes.

Annex II

SUBCOMMITTEE ON DRUG CONTROL: TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Subcommittee ensures collaboration and coordination within the United Nations system on all matters related to the control of drug abuse, through the exchange of information and the development of multi-agency sectoral and subsectoral plans of action in the context of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan (SWAP) on Drug Abuse Control.

The Subcommittee addresses the following areas:

1. Reviewing the global situation and trends related to drug abuse and promoting coordination with regard to the monitoring of the implementation of treaty-based responsibilities, the mandates from intergovernmental bodies relating to drug abuse control and the Global Programme of Action on drug abuse control;
2. Coordination of measures undertaken by the United Nations system to prevent and reduce drug abuse, to reduce the illicit supply of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and to halt illicit drug traffic, including:
  - (a) Demand-reduction activities (education, research, development and dissemination of information on associated risks) aimed at prevention of drug abuse;
  - (b) Demand-reduction activities in support of treatment and rehabilitation of persons with drug abuse-related problems;
  - (c) Strategies and activities to promote sustainable socio-economic development and the introduction of alternative sources of income as measures to reduce the illicit supply of raw materials used in the production of narcotic drugs;
  - (d) Activities aimed at suppression of illicit drug trafficking;
  - (e) Collection, retrieval, analysis and dissemination of data on drug abuse and trafficking;
3. Promotion of multi-agency approaches and activities at the global, regional and country levels, with particular regard to the functioning of the resident coordinator system in the area of drug abuse control;
4. Joint planning and scheduling of meetings and events and collaboration in the preparation of publications and other material.

Annex III

AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Programme coordination issues:
  - (a) Modalities of follow-up to global conferences and development of common system-wide responses;
  - (b) Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development;
  - (c) Relief-to-development continuum;
  - (d) Poverty eradication;
  - (e) Science and technology for development.
3. Operational activities for development:
  - (a) Implementation of General Assembly resolution 47/199;
  - (b) Resource flows and trends for operational activities.
4. Reports of subcommittees:
  - (a) Subcommittee on Rural Development;
  - (b) Subcommittee on Nutrition;
  - (c) Subcommittee on Statistical Activities;
  - (d) Subcommittee on Drug Control.
5. CCPOQ administrative issues:
  - (a) Report of the Secretary;
  - (b) Task Force on Support Costs;
  - (c) Future programme of work.
6. Other matters:
  - (a) JIU reports;

- (b) Preparations for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlement (Habitat II);
- (c) Any other business.



Annex IV

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Chairman: N. SADIK (United Nations Population Fund)

Secretary: D. DEANE (United Nations Office at Geneva)

Technical Secretary: S. TOH (United Nations Office at Geneva)

United Nations, its entities and programmes

United Nations

Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development	A. Haemmerli S. Khan I. Volkov C. Hackett
Department for Development Support and Management Services	D. Stillman M. Platzer
Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis	G. del Castillo
Department of Humanitarian Affairs	S. Green
Regional commissions, New York office	C. Kassangana
United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)	W. N'Dow A. Gueye A. Celik
United Nations Environment Programme	M. Jansen
United Nations Children's Fund	A. Vaher M. Kamau
United Nations Development Programme	J.-J. Graisse N. Chandavarkar L. de Boice E. Wilkens
United Nations Population Fund	M. Simonen C. Pierce E. Ranneberg-Nilsen
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	B. Deschamp
United Nations Institute for Training and Research	N. Azimi

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United Nations International Drug Control Programme	S. Bryant
World Food Programme	J. Chapelier M. Hyder

Specialized agencies and International Atomic Energy Agency

International Labour Organization	D. Freedman T. Prada de Mesa J. Sorensen
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	E. Hein
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	G. Rouchet
International Civil Aviation Organization	B. Asante
World Health Organization	F. Littaua
World Bank	N. Raphaeli J. Grayson
International Monetary Fund	J. Zulu H. Shugarman
Universal Postal Union	K. K. Samawi
International Telecommunication Union	J. Elotu
International Maritime Organization	D. Kerlin
World Intellectual Property Organization	V. Yossifov
United Nations Industrial Development Organization	W. Luetkenhorst
International Atomic Energy Agency	J. Lodding

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United Nations Volunteers Programme	R. Leigh
International Training Centre of ILO at Turin	H. Geiser N. Tal
ACC Subcommittee on Statistical Activities	H. Habermann
ACC Subcommittee on Nutrition	J. Mason
ACC Subcommittee on Demographic Estimates and Projections	L. Heligman

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