



INTRAH

TRIP REPORT #0-46

TRAVELERS: Ms. Catherine Murphy and
Ms. Christine Durham, INTRAH Staff

COUNTRY VISITED: MAURITIUS

DATE OF TRIP: March 10-16, 1985

PURPOSE: To finalize programmatic and
logistic arrangements for Regional Family
Planning Visual Communication Workshop

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***On file with INTRAH's Program Office**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRAH Training Materials Officer Ms. Catherine Murphy and INTRAH Contract/Finance Officer Ms. Christine Durham visited Mauritius from Sunday, March 10 through Saturday, March 16, 1985. Briefing and debriefing meetings were held at the American Embassy in Port Louis, Mauritius. The team developed a subcontract with the Mauritius Family Planning Association (MFPA) to host INTRAH's Anglophone Regional Family Planning Visual Communication workshop in August, 1985. A bank account was opened at Citibank in Port Louis, and the workshop and lodging site was selected in Tamarin Bay. A Mauritian co-trainer was confirmed for the workshop and the workshop objectives, curriculum, evaluation/follow-up and other programmatic matters were discussed with her. Logistical arrangements such as prepaid tickets for participants, workshop supplies, and involvement of other agencies in Mauritius were discussed and initiated. Materials were collected for distribution to nominated workshop participants. Ms. Barbara Kennedy, Regional Population Advisor, REDSO/ESA was in Mauritius during the latter part of the visit. The team took this opportunity to brief her on the meetings and discussions held during the trip.

SCHEDULE DURING VISIT

- March 10** **Arrival in Mauritius (16:00 hours)**
- March 11** **Briefing at American Embassy, Port Louis with Counselor of Embassy, Mr. Donald Steinberg**
- Planning with Mrs. Geeta Oodit, MFPA Secretary Manager and Deputy Secretary Manager Director of Programs**
- Visit to central MFPA clinic in Port Louis, a potential workshop practicum site**
- Meetings with Skyline Ltd. travel agent**
- Visits to stationery stores**
- Visit to Arc en Ciel Hotel, a possible lodging and workshop site**
- March 12** **Planning meetings at MFPA with Deputy Secretary Manager/Director of Programs**
- (INTRAH team could only work a half day, due to national holiday)**
- March 13** **Budget and reporting meetings with Mr. Nanda Ramenah, MFPA Secretary Manager and Mr. Arjoon Koosul, MFPA Finance Officer**
- Initial meeting at Citibank**
- Visit to Roche Bois Health Center, a potential workshop practicum site**
- Visit to Tamarin Hotel, a possible lodging and workshop site**
- Meeting with Skyline Ltd. travel agent**
- Further discussions at Citibank**
- Meeting at Tamarin Hotel with hotel manager**
- March 14** **Meeting with Mr. R. T. Naik, Chairman of MFPA**
- Meeting at Mauritius College of the Air, a potential workshop resource**
- Meeting to review draft contract with MFPA Secretary Manager and Deputy Secretary Manager/Director of Programs**
- Visit to Bambous Social Welfare Center, a potential workshop practicum site**
- Visit to Action Familiale, a potential workshop resource**
- Meetings at MFPA to review contract budget and suggested changes to the draft contract**
- March 15** **Visit to MFPA Valee des Pretres family planning and sterilization clinic**
- Finalization meetings at MFPA headquarters**
- Meetings at Citibank**
- Debriefing at U.S. Embassy with Mr. Donald Steinberg, Counselor of Embassy, and Mr. George Andrews, U.S. Ambassador to Mauritius**
- Reception following MFPA Board of Directors meeting**
- March 16** **Departure from Mauritius (18:10 hours)**

I. PURPOSES OF THE TRIP

The objectives of the trip were as follows:

1. To confirm U.S. Embassy's agreement with INTRAH to have the Anglophone Regional Family Planning Visual Communication workshop in Mauritius in July - August 1985.
2. To review workshop proposal, curriculum, participants, training site, available training resources, dates, and other programmatic issues with the Mauritius Family Planning Association (MFPA).
3. To develop a contractual agreement with MFPA to host the workshop, including the handling of all in-country logistics.
4. To arrange the best possible mechanism for transferring funds to support the workshop.
5. To review financial reporting and reconciliation with MFPA staff.
6. To collect information on Mauritius for participant packets.

II. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. The U.S. Embassy confirmed its agreement with MFPA for hosting the INTRAH Anglophone Regional Family Planning Visual Communication workshop in August 1985 and encouraged INTRAH to use Mauritius as a regional training site, if appropriate, in the future.
2. The U.S. Embassy agreed to handle the limited communication requests made by INTRAH for the regional workshop.
3. The MFPA Deputy Secretary Manager/Director of Programs was confirmed as a co-trainer for the regional workshop. Workshop objectives, curriculum, dates, participants, training site, training resources available in Mauritius, and evaluation and follow-up plans were discussed with her.
4. The MFPA Deputy Secretary Manager/Director of Programs was designated as the workshop coordinator, responsible for arrangement and implementation of all in-country logistics.
5. A contract was developed with the MFPA to host the workshop and handle all in-country logistics.
6. Arrangements were made for MFPA, through a travel agent in Port Louis, to send prepaid tickets to workshop participants.
7. The workshop and lodging site was selected and dates were set for the workshop.

8. Other agencies in Mauritius were visited to discuss their potential contributions to the workshop.
9. A bank account was opened at Citibank in Port Louis and the process for fund transfer procedures was confirmed.
10. Available supplies for the workshop were identified and samples and a list were left with MFPA for purchase.
11. Materials about Mauritius were collected to send to participants in preparation for their travel.
12. Ms. Barbara Kennedy, Regional Population Advisor, REDSO/ESA, was briefed regarding the INTRAH team's meetings and discussions during the week.

III. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

- A. The INTRAH team discussed INTRAH's proposal to hold an Anglophone Regional Family Planning Visual Communication workshop in Mauritius, hosted by the MFPA, with Mr. Donald Steinberg, Counselor to the U.S. Embassy. He was very supportive of the proposal, particularly in light of the example that Mauritius' family planning program could provide for other African countries. He suggested other agencies in Mauritius which the INTRAH team should visit to discuss their potential involvement in the workshop. Mr. Steinberg agreed that the Embassy could assist with the necessary cable traffic with AID/W and other Missions/Embassies regarding participant nominations and ETA's and INTRAH trainers' travel to Mauritius. He also agreed to receive workshop materials pouched from INTRAH and pass them to MFPA.
- B. The INTRAH team held meetings with Mr. Nanda Ramenah, Secretary Manager; Mrs. Geeta Oodit, Deputy Secretary Manager/Director of Programs; and other MFPA staff to develop a contract for MFPA to host the regional workshop and manage all in-country logistics. MFPA will also be responsible for sending prepaid tickets to participants through a travel agent in Port Louis. Participant names and addresses will have to be supplied to MFPA at least six weeks before the workshop in order to allow sufficient time for issuing the tickets.

Mrs. Geeta Oodit was designated as the workshop coordinator and a co-trainer. Discussions were held to clarify the various tasks involved in each role and how Mrs. Oodit will manage both responsibilities. Mrs. Oodit reviewed the draft workshop objectives and curriculum and provided valuable

insights into how they could be improved, based on her experience as a participant in the Francophone Regional Family Planning Visual Communication workshop in 1984. Mrs. Oodit and the INTRAH team discussed all logistical arrangements to be made for the workshop, as well as evaluation and follow up plans.

- C. The INTRAH team and MFPA representatives visited two hotels in Mauritius which could serve as the lodging and training site for the workshop. The Tamarin Hotel in Tamarin Bay was selected and the workshop dates were set (August 5 - 23, 1985) according to the availability of Mrs. Geeta Oodit and the hotel. The hotel is small and quiet, away from the bustle of Port Louis and other cities but is still easily accessible to those cities by bus. The hotel can provide an adequately sized training room with tables and a small room for a secretary and a duplicating machine. All arrangements with the hotel will be handled by MFPA, according to the MFPA/UNC subcontract.
- D. One member of the INTRAH team met with Mr. Herve Juste and Mr. Richard Stmart of Action Familiale to discuss possible materials on natural family planning (NFP) which Action Familiale could provide for the workshop. Since all of the materials which Action Familiale produces are in French, Mr. Juste offered to loan the samples of English NFP materials which they have in their collection for participants to use as references during the workshop. The INTRAH representative invited Action Familiale to nominate a staff member to attend the regional workshop and stated that the official notification would come through the U.S. Embassy. Mr. Juste gave an overview of the regional Action Familiale conference/workshop which is planned immediately prior to the INTRAH workshop at the same hotel, the Tamarin.
- E. One of the INTRAH representatives visited the Mauritius College of the Air (MCA), a parastatal organization which develops media materials for government and non-government agencies in Mauritius. MCA has assisted MFPA in the development of some of their IEC materials, including radio and television programs and spots, brochures, and booklets. INTRAH and MFPA plan to use the example of the MCA-MFPA collaboration to illustrate how local resources can be used to produce training and IEC materials which may be conceived and designed by the participants when they return to their home countries. MCA agreed to provide a video technician to videotape sessions of the workshop in case some participants arrive late and need to be tutored on the sessions which they missed.

- F. Visits were made to four clinics which may serve as sites for participants to pre-test their materials. Two were MOH clinics and two were MFPA clinics. The MCH/FP services, schedules, and clinic clients were discussed with the staff at each clinic. All four clinics would be appropriate sites for pre-testing the materials. MFPA will make all scheduling arrangements for the clinic site visits, as well as a visit to the School of Nursing in case any of the participants develop pre-service training materials.
- G. Several meetings were held with Mr. Leung, Citibank Manager for setting up and opening the external account and reviewing procedures for fund transfers.
- H. The INTRAH team collected materials about Mauritius from their hotel, a bookstore, and a travel agent. These materials, including maps and information about culture, climate, travel, lodging, etc., will be incorporated into the information packets which INTRAH will send to participants in preparation for their travel.
- I. The INTRAH team briefed Ms. Barbara Kennedy, Regional Population Advisor, REDSO/ESA, regarding their meetings during the week. Ms. Kennedy advised the team that sending a prepaid ticket to Sudan, to her knowledge, has never been successfully accomplished. She suggested we be prepared for an alternative plan if prepaying is impossible. Ms. Kennedy spoke supportively of MFPA being used as a regional training site for Africa.
- J. The INTRAH team held debriefing meetings at the American Embassy, including a meeting with the Ambassador, Mr. George Andrews, who was very supportive of INTRAH using MFPA as a regional training site. The team then debriefed Mr. Donald Steinberg on the outcomes of their visit and left a draft copy of the MFPA-UNC subcontract with him.

IV. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- A. The MFPA is well equipped and ready to manage all the in-country logistical arrangements for the workshop and to assist with co-training and follow-up.
- B. The family planning programs in Mauritius will serve as excellent discussion examples for the participants from other countries.
- C. The Tamarin Hotel will be a comfortable location for lodging and training.
- D. The contract agreement is fully understood by MFPA staff and we foresee no problems with carrying out the contract or in technical or financial reporting.
- E. The funds will be wire transferred to Citibank in Mauritius for the external

INTRAH/MFPA account. Any funds remaining in the account after payment for all workshop activities, can easily be returned to INTRAH, UNC-CH.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. The proposed subcontract should be forwarded to AID/W for approval (see Appendix B).
- B. The deadline for participants and alternates nominations should be sufficiently early in order to transmit the names to MFPA by the first week of June for purposes of issuing prepaid tickets.
- C. A cash advance should be wired to MFPA as soon as the contract is approved by AID/W in order to cover the necessary hotel deposit.
- D. Since the INTRAH team was unable to meet with Mauritius Ministry of Health officials during their visit, a letter regarding the regional workshop should be sent immediately to the Permanent Secretary.

APPENDIX A

Persons Contacted

U.S. Embassy

Mr. Donald Steinberg	Counselor of Embassy of the U.S.
Mr. Shariff Jathoola	Economics/Commercial Specialist
Ms. Clare Cavoli	Economics/Commercial Officer
Mr. G. Seeyeve	Budget/Finance Officer
Mr. George R. Andrews	U.S. Ambassador to Mauritius

Mauritius Family Planning Association

Mr. Nanda Ramenah	Secretary Manager
Mrs. Geeta Oodit	Deputy Secretary Manager/Director of Programs
Mrs. Maudarun	Nurse, MFPA central clinic
Mr. Satyanand Rampersad	Storekeeper
Mrs. Appadoo	MFPA Board Member
Mr. Takoor	MFPA Board Member
Mr. Naresh Mapara	Youth Coordinator
Mr. Arjoon Koosul	Finance Officer
Mr. R. T. Naik	Chairman
Dr. Roy Chavrimoutou	OB/Gyn Physician, MFPA Valee des Pretres Sterilization Clinic
Mrs. Marie Lourdes Tsang-Lam Hung	Lawyer
Miss Marie Josee Laboute	Secretary
Miss Koresha Auladie	Secretary
Mr. Nizam Jaunbaccus	Driver
Judgish Hurdowar	Driver

CITIBANK

Mr. Steve A. Leung	Manager
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Action Familiale

Mr. Hervé M. Juste

Director

Mr. Richard R. Stmart

Deputy Director

Roche Bois Health Center

Mrs. Samachetty

District Nursing Officer

Mrs. Pragassa

Midwife

Mrs. Kasee

Clinical Assistant

Mauritius College of the Air

Mrs. Meena Seebulisingh

Director

Mrs. Mariam Gopaul

Liaison Officer

Mr. Ronald Raimbert

Documentalist

Bambous Health Center

Mrs. P. Bississau

District Nurse

Dr. Ramchandra Bheenick

Physician

Mrs. T. Jugroop

Family Planning Supervisor

Miss S. Nandoo

Social Welfare Worker

Others

Ms. Barbara Kennedy

Regional Population REDSO/ESA

Mr. Jess Ramsingh

Mauritius Ambassador to the U.S.

Mr. Kamlesh Rampoorab

Travel Agent, Skyline Ltd.

Mr. Andre Cheong Tin

Manager, Tamarin Hotel

Manager, Arc en Ciel Hotel

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