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**TRIP REPORT
GHANA**

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this brief visit was to review activities planned for the conference and make any mid-course changes if necessary, meet with the organizers and coordinators, and lastly, reach agreement with the Regional Institute of Population Studies (RIPS) regarding a contract. All conference plans and activities are proceeding smoothly and on schedule except for the delivery of the commissioned papers. However, all authors have assured the respective organizers of the session that the papers will be completed before the conference.

Prior to this visit, a cost-reimbursement contract between The Futures Group and RIPS was prepared. Because of a change in administration in RIPS, the Acting Director, Dr. Okoye, needed written approval from the Economic Commission of Africa (ECA) in Ethiopia. The approval arrived on March 16.

II. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the trip were as follows:

1. To review the status of the conference plans and activities, specifically the agenda, photographs for the slide presentations, lodging and meals details, commissioned papers, media publicity and the RAPID presentation.
2. To meet with coordinators and organizers to review their role and function in the conference.
3. To submit a completed, final contract and budget to RIPS for approval.
4. To establish an agenda of activities and meetings for the next visit, which will be the actual conference.

III. TRIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Agenda, Conference Folder and Logo

A mockup of the agenda and conference folder prepared by the Population Reference Bureau's (PRB) Impact Project was taken to Accra for final review and approval by Dr. Kirkland and Dr. Garbrah. The logo, designed by PRB staff, was to be prominently displayed on the conference folder. This mockup was also taken to Accra for approval; it consisted of a map of Ghana with the colors of the national flag displayed in bands longitudinally across the map, i.e., red, yellow and green bands. In the yellow portion there were shadows of a family--father, mother and children. In summary, the agenda was revised and approved. The logo and conference folder were approved. These items are being prepared by PRB in the United States.

The agenda or conference schedule will consist of five topical sessions each having a chairperson, an organizer (main technical presenter), and five discussion leaders (authors of the commissioned papers) who will lead the small group discussions. The small groups will discuss the issues presented by the organizers with an emphasis on applicability to their situations, sensibility, and methods or implications for future implementation. Pictures of the five organizers will be printed in the agenda.

A few details on timing and spacing of registration, completion of the population questionnaire (see last trip report) and refreshments were made to allow a smooth flow of participants into the auditorium prior to the opening session.

The opening session will be aired on national radio, and chaired by Mr. E. M. Omaboe, Chief and author of the Ghana Population Policy. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Fred Sai, physician and health and population advisor to the World Bank.

The final session of the conference will focus on sectoral recommendations that are realistic, action-oriented and practical. The recommendations will be published after the conference and will be designed to assist policymakers.

Throughout the conference, there will be an exhibit area consisting of the Ghana Social Marketing Program (literature and samples will be made available),

the Ghana Planned Parenthood Association, and eight different publications by the Population Communication Service of Johns Hopkins University. In addition to the exhibits, five films will be shown on social marketing and the impact of population growth. All films will be shown at least twice, once in the evening and once during the day.

Photographs of Ghanaian Life

During his last trip, Patrice van de Walle had purchased color slide film for a retired photographer from the Ministry of Information to use for taking pictures from a list of scenes previously prepared. At that time it was unknown whether the slides would form a separate slide presentation or be integrated into the organizer's speech. A major concern was whether the slides could be seen in the auditorium given that there are no shades on the windows. It was confirmed that slides are always shown in the auditorium and that the U.S. standards for clear visibility were unrealistic. Nonetheless, it was requested that some kind of temporary covering be used, particularly in the morning when there is greater light in the room.

The pictures requested have been taken, processed and mounted for presentation. The next step will be for the organizers to select the appropriate slides for their speeches.

Lodging and Meals

All details of the meals and lodging were discussed with the University of Ghana catering service and dormitory service. Quality of service was emphasized for such details as linens, pumping water to the bedrooms so participants do not have to carry a bucket of water, tablecloths, an assortment of beverages and food items, cleanliness of the bathrooms, etc.

Commissioned Papers

All authors have accepted the invitation to write a paper; however, only 2 of the 25 have been submitted. The remaining are in varying degrees of completion. The organizers are responsible for encouraging their timely submission. All authors have submitted abstracts or outlines to the organizers.

Media Publicity

Appendix D contains two of the four articles that have been written on population for pre-conference publicity. Many people not directly associated with the conference also are aware of this major event.

Ghana radio, television and newspaper reporters will be participating throughout the conference. A press room will be available for their use, complete with office supplies and typewriters. Mr. Henry Ofori, retired editor of the Mirror, is the Press Coordinator. He was also an editor on staff of the Ghana Family Planning Association. His efforts have been invaluable.

Mr. Ofori is responsible for designing a 4' x 16' cloth banner which will be hung behind the stage in the auditorium. The logo will be painted on the left and right sides, and the title of the conference printed in the middle.

Ms. Hannah Dankwa-Smith of the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation has been holding weekly radio interviews of the conference chairpersons and organizers. This has brought considerable publicity.

RAPID Presentation

A large video screen will be used for the RAPID presentation which will be shown in the auditorium at the end of the first day. The presentation will also be shown on the last day of the conference on a TV screen for those who are unable to view it the first day.

Participants

It is anticipated that there will be 100-200 participants in the conference, with the greatest numbers participating the first and last days. The banquet is planned for the last evening of the conference and will accommodate about 250 people. Participants will represent all the ministries as well as private organizations and associations.

Coordinators and Organizers Meeting

The conference plans to date were discussed with the coordinators (conference staff) and organizers. Their role was discussed and clarified. The organizers briefed Dr. Garbrah and the consultant on the status of the commissioned papers.

RIPS Contract

On the day before the SOMARC staff consultant was to leave the country, a delay occurred in RIPS approving the terms of the contract between The Futures Group and RIPS. Dr. Okonjo, Executive Director of RIPS, was relieved of his position in January, and Dr. Okoye was named Acting Director. This change in management resulted in the necessity of having the Economic Commission of Africa in Addis Ababa, the intermediate agency for the United Nations that funds RIPS, approve the conference. The approval arrived in Accra on Sunday, March 16.

IV. NEXT STEPS

The final conference-related visit to Ghana will be in two weeks to actually implement the conference. The following activities have been planned:

- Press briefing at the Ministry of Information; scheduled for 10:00 a.m., Thursday, April 3.
- Meeting with the coordinators at the RIPS office on Friday morning, April 4.
- Meeting with the Conference Chairman, Mr. Omaboe, the session chairpersons and the organizers; scheduled for Friday afternoon.
- Final inspection of the meeting rooms, dormitories and dining hall on Saturday, April 5.
- Monitoring of the conference packets, exhibit areas and registration areas.

APPENDIX A
LIST OF CONTACTS

USAID

Dr. Ray Kirkland, Population Officer

Regional Institute for Population Studies

Dr. Benjamin Gyepi-Garbrah, Professor
Dr. C.S. Okoye, Acting Director, RIPS

DANAFCO

Yaw Berkow, General Manager
L.S. Akuetteh, Administrative Manager

LINTAS Ghana, Ltd.

Jake Obetsebi - Lamptey, Managing Director

Ministry of Health

Dr. Joseph D. Otoo, Director of Medical Services

APPENDIX B

AGENDA

GHANA NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GHANA, LEGON, APRIL 7-10, 1986

MONDAY, APRIL 7

- 9:00 AM Registration; distribution of folders and vouchers
- 10:00 AM Information on Organization of the Conference by Conference Director, Dr. Ben Gyepi-Garbrah; population questionnaire
- 10:30 AM Official Opening of Conference Dr. C. S. Okoye, Officer in Charge. Introduction of Chairman by Director of Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS), Legon, Opening Remarks. Conference Chairman: Nana Wereko, Ampem II, Gyasehene of Akuapem Traditional Area, former Commissioner for Economic Affairs and former Government Statistician.
- 10:40 AM Welcome Address by Professor Akilagpa Sawyer, Vice-Chancellor, University of Ghana, Legon.
- 10:50 AM Opening Address by Dr. Kwesi Botchway, PNDC Secretary for Finance and Economic Planning.
- 11:15 AM Address by Dr. (Mrs.) Mary Grant, PNDC Under Secretary for Health.
- 11:30 AM Keynote Address by Dr. Fred T. Sai, Senior Advisor for Population, Health and Nutrition, the World Bank, Washington, D.C., and former Director of Ghana Medical Services

- 3:00 PM Small Group Discussions (See Group Discussion Schedule)
- 4:00 PM Reports of the Small Groups
- 5:00 PM RAPID Presentation by
- 5:30 PM Conference wrap-up by Dr. Gyepi-Garbrah.

TUESDAY
APRIL 8

SESSION II - MATERNAL/CHILD HEALTH AND ADOLESCENT FERTILITY

Chairperson: Mrs. N. N. Hornsby-Odoi, Director of Nursing Services, Ministry of Health, Accra.

- 9:00 AM Introduction to Session, Professor D. A. Ampofo, University of Ghana Medical School, Korle-Su, Accra.
- 10:00 AM Refreshments
- 10:10 AM Small Group Discussions (See Group Discussion Schedules)
- 11:10 AM Reports of the Small Groups
- 12:10 L u n c h B r e a k

2:00 PM SESSION III - POPULATION GROWTH AND THE NATION'S RESOURCES

Chairman: Dr. E. Oti Boateng, Government Statistician, Statistical Services, Accra.

Introduction to Session, Professor George Benneh, Pro-Vice Chancellor and Head of Geography Department, University of Ghana, Legon.

- 3:00 PM Refreshments
- 3:10 PM Small Group Discussions (See Group Discussion Schedule)
- 4:00 PM Reports of the Small Groups
- 5:00 PM Wrap-up by Dr. Gyepi-Garbrah

WEDNESDAY

SESSION IV - GENDER, ROLES AND SOCIAL PERCEPTIONS
ON POPULATION

Chairperson: Professor Florence Dolphyne, Chairperson,
National Council on Women and Development,
Accra.

9:00 AM Introduction to Session, Professor Miranda Greenstreet,
Institute of Adult Education, University of Ghana, Legon.

10:00 AM Refreshments

10:10 AM Small Group Discussions (See Group Discussion Schedule)

11:00 AM Reports of the Small Groups

12:00 L u n c h B r e a k

SESSION V - FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMME IN GHANA:
EMERGING TRENDS

Chairman: Dr. J. D. Otoo, Director of Medical
Services, Ministry of Health, Accra.

2:00 PM Introduction to Session, Dr. Charlotte, Gardiner, Head
of Maternal/Child Health and Family Okabbubg Division,
Ministry of Health, Accra.

3:00 PM Refreshments

3:10 PM Small Group Discussions (See Group Discussion Schedule)

4:00 PM Reports of the Small Groups

5:00 PM Wrap-up by Dr- Gyepi-Garbrah

6:00 PM Closing Dinner
Miss Joyce Aryee, PNDC Secretary for Education, Guest Speaker
Ghanaian Dance Troupe

THURSDAY SESSION VI - CHALLENGE TO PARTICIPANTS: CONFERENCE
CLOSING

- 9:00 AM Conference Chairman: Nana Wereko Ampam II, Gyasehene of
Akuapem Traditional Area, former Commissioner for Economic
Affairs and former Government Statistician.
- 9:10 AM Small Group Development of Recommendations by Sectors:
 o Family Planning and Health
 o Education
 o Agriculture and Nutrition
 o Women's Roles
 o Labour, Employment and Economic Development
 o Migration and Urbanization
- 10:30 AM Refreshments
- 10:45 AM Presentation of Sectoral Recommendations
- 11:45 AM Adoption of Recommendations and Closing Remarks by
Chairman
- 12:15 PM Final Comments and Challenge to Participants,
Dr. Gyepi-Garbrah
- 12:30 PM Closing Address by Mr. Totobi Quakyi, Under Secretary
for Information
- 12:45 PM Lunch and reimbursements



Ghana National Conference
on Population and
National Reconstruction
7—10 April 1986

Carl Mutt

APPENDIX D

'MY NAME IS OZYMANDIAS'

ONCE again, the 6th of March is here — well, at least it's round the corner; and by that memorable day, we will be reminding ourselves of that remarkable achievement some 29 years ago.

Some of us have witnessed all 29 anniversaries so far; but how many realise that of the 14 millions or so Ghanaians estimated to be alive now, about 50% were not alive at the first anniversary of that event?

In other words, we have added about seven million people to what we had at the beginning of our nationhood! In actual fact, we have lost quite a few million very young ones since then.

As usual, the Head of State or his representative will make a speech to the nation. Twenty-eight such speeches have already been made; I am sure if the Quiz Master of "What Do You Know" radio programme of the G.B.C. were to ask contestants on the main theme of last year's speech or the year before, none would know.

So it is: only a few people, apart from those who either write or read such speeches remember the contents, unless the speech contain some dramatic policy statement like: "From the 7th of March, all unemployed young men between the ages of 18 and 25 are to be compulsorily recruited to work on the Railway and Road Rehabilitation Programme of the country."

We of this country, are by nature — induced by the British — brief speakers. Even the late Dr Kwame Nkrumah who was regarded here as a long "speech-maker" never spoke for more than one and a half hours at a time. I have been to marathon speech-making rallies by Heads of State in at least ten countries: Guinea and Cuba and I know what I am talking about.

Sékou Touré spoke on a National day celebration in Conakry for four hours; fortunately, I was seated. I was not so lucky in Havana some 24 years ago when I stood for six hours while Fidel Castro addressed the crowd. In the latter case, there was some relief in the form of Coca Cola which was served free; I wished they had added about two cuts of Rum. It was of course, good that that idea did not occur to them, otherwise, by the end of the six hours speech, half of the audience would either be sitting down on the bare parade ground or lying prostrate thereon.

Yes, the speech from the dais is bound to be a short one and as a result, will not cover all aspects of our political and economic life; this is why I want to add to it with my own speech to the younger generation, those between 15 and 35.

When I was a little boy 49 years ago in Standard Five, now known as Middle Form Two, we shared the same classroom with the pupils of Standard 6 and Standard 7. The three classes had two teachers among them. Our teacher taught Standard 5 and the other teacher taught Standard 6 and 7. This was because the total number of pupils in the three classes was 25! There were only three pupils in

Standard 7. So by the time we in Standard 5 got to it we knew half of what was being taught there. The whole school from Class One to Standard 7 totalled 103 pupils.

Now the situation is different, a school of the nature I experienced in my boyhood will now contain no less than one thousand pupils! This is why teachers these days, cannot mark the exercise books of their pupils. How can they when for every subject taught you have no less than fifty exercise books to mark each week!

We in our time, were few and our teachers were thus able to teach us very well; this is why after 50 years, I can still give the right answer to a mathematical problem like: "If 18 men can dig a hole working 6 hours a day in 6 days; how many days will 24 men digging the same hole take working 4 hours a day?"

Dear countrymen, what I am trying to tell you today is that it is about time we paid attention to the rather fast manner in which our population is increasing. What bothers me more is that many of the people who are appearing in our country now are coming through 'accidents' and 'by-heartness'. In other words, the people who are bringing them forth, both the mothers and the fathers do not actually derive to bring forth.

This is the most disturbing aspect of the manner in which our population is increasing. The trouble is this: if the people who cause these births are not prepared for them how can you expect the state, which in most cases is not aware of the existence of the couples be prepared for this addition? I ask you: how?

Sex is a natural instinct I know but it does not mean whenever the thing hits you, you should grab the nearest orange or groundnuts seller and with little or no persuasion satisfy the urge. You remember the story of the orange seller and the truck pusher?

Animals are expected to multiply in order that we may eat them. This is why we are never lathered by the number of goats, sheep, cows, dogs — some people here eat dogs — and other such animals that supplement our diet. We have all been young men in our time. I was an eligible bachelor for eleven good years and I never put anyone in a family way until I was ready to marry. It is the same with my bosom friend 'Okapi', of Kumasi.

This year, I am appealing to the youth organisations like: JFM, DYLG, AYC, BSM and the Commission for Women's Development — I can never get the name of this organisation right — to participate actively in Family Planning Communication work. I understand the Regional Institute of Population Studies is soon organising a conference on the subject. It is imperative that these organisations send at least a representative each. We must do something now otherwise, like Ozymandias — Shelley's poem someday someone will say of the Independence Arch:

And on the pedestal these words appear:
"My name is Ozymandias, king of kings
Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!"
Nothing beside remains. Round the decay
Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare
The lone and level sands stretch far away.

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BIRTH CONTROL IS NOT NEW IN GHANA BUT...

THE concept and practice of women limiting the number of their children is not an alien development in Ghanaian society.

By J. Y. Owusu

Traditional practices relating to marriage, procreation and abstinence following birth of children have had the effect of limiting the number of children a Ghanaian woman is capable of begetting in her reproductive life.

PUBERTY RITES

One mechanism for controlling adolescent fertility was the observance of puberty rites for girls. These rites were performed to signify that the girl has attained adulthood and marriageable age. Among many Ghanaian ethnic groups it was taboo for a girl to become pregnant prior to the initiation of puberty rites.

Although the rites were supposed to follow shortly after the girl's first menstruation, in practice the performance of the rites were usually delayed until the girl was considered physically mature and, in some cases until a prospective husband had been found. Marriage and pregnancy generally followed soon after the performance of the rites.

BREASTFEEDING AND SEXUAL ABSTINENCE:

The practice of breastfeeding tended to lengthen the period after child birth during which a woman remained infertile. This practice was widespread and of long duration. Post-partum sexual abstinence

ence, extending for up to two or more years, was also widespread, and facilitated by the practice of polygamous marriage.

Such marriages enabled the wife to leave her marital home in order to stay at her family home until the end of the period of abstinence. Women who had child births successively at short intervals (i.e. before the previous child was able to walk) were generally held up to ridicule.

All of these social and traditional practices among our women helped to ensure some measure of spacing between births, and; although the pronatalist values of the society still supported a large family size, the prevalence of the birth spacing practices resulted in a woman having a number of children which was generally far below that which she was actually capable of having.

ADVENT OF MODERNISATION:
With the advent of modernisation many of the social controls and practices relating to child spacing began breaking down. Puberty rites are no longer widely performed and the social sanctions against pregnancy before the performance of puberty rites are consequently no longer in force.

Unwanted premarital pregnancies are therefore more common place, resulting in a significant in-

crease in fatal clandestine abortions among adolescent girls.

Recent studies have shown that the extent and duration of breastfeeding has declined. This has resulted in women becoming fertile shortly after the birth of children.

The decreasing practice of polygamy and the changing pattern of marital residential arrangements have also brought about a decline in duration of abstinence after child birth which formerly was practised through the geographical separation of the man and wife.

NEED FOR CHILD SPACING METHODS

Other social changes which have increased the need for child spacing measures are female education and employment.

The increase in school attendance among females has had the effect of increasing the period between

the attainment of adulthood and marriage.

This social change, combined with increased female employment in the formal economic sector, is less compatible with child bearing than traditional domestic work or employment in the informal sector. This has increased the need for alternative methods of child spacing.

MODERN FAMILY PLANNING METHODS

While many of the traditional child spacing methods are still relevant and highly advocated, a new range of methods has been introduced to allow a choice depending upon an individual's circumstances or religious beliefs.

These methods range from abstinence during a woman's fertile period to mechanical and chemical devices, such as the Pill, IUD, and Condom, which, when used, will help pre-

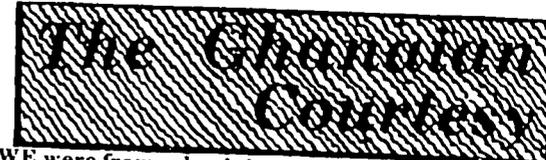
vent the woman from getting pregnant.

GHANA'S NATIONAL POPULATION POLICY

In May 1969 the Government of Ghana published a national population policy statement which, among other things, recognised the need for the establishment of a national programme to assist couples who wanted to voluntarily regulate or space their children.

This programme was also intended to provide information and services on fertility regulation and child spacing to such couples. What is the level of demand for the services of the programme today? What have been its achievements over the past sixteen years, and what are its future plans and programmes?

These are some of the issues to be discussed at the forthcoming Ghana National Conference on Population and National Reconstruction to take place at the University of Ghana, Legon, from April 7 to 10 this year.



WE were from school the other day and we boarded a Korle Bu vin Mamprobi Tata Bus. While we were waiting for the bus to load and take off an elderly lady came in. By then all the seats were occupied and a few people standing.

A young girl who was sitting in one of the seats got off and beckoned to the elderly woman to take her seat.

My Nigerian friend who was sitting beside me saw what happened and asked, "Why did the girl give her seat to the woman? Didn't she pay?"

"She has," I replied. "But you see the girl's action is part of what we call the Ghanaian courtesies. To the young girl it was a moral obligation to her to give her seat to her senior."

"Also she knew she was younger and would stand the shakes of the bus than the elderly woman. Our young people are very respectful to the elders", I emphasised.

"Then, these your people are really good" my foreign colleague confirmed. "The first week I came to Ghana I wanted to see a friend I understand was staying at Dansoman estates but did not know how I would trace him. But I was surprised that the first man I asked about Dansoman Estates not only took me there but enquired until we got my friend. In my country these things are not common", he admitted.

I went further to tell my friend that Ghanaians are not only famous for their hospitality but have also gone beyond the English idea of "Ladies first" to "Elders first".

I assured him that he was in a country of friendly and courteous people and that he should feel at home.

I therefore take this opportunity to call on fellow Ghanaian youth to keep the mantle high. Our way of life is being admired all over the world.

EMMANUEL ABRAHAM'GIJ, ACCRA

THE MARRIAGE CONTRACT

IN an article captioned, the Marriage Contract published in the "People's Daily Graphic" recently, the writer talked about the way the Frabras, Kasena/Nankanis and the Muslims marry.

In that article in paragraphs three, the writer mentioned, a girl from the above-mentioned tribes gets married to any of her suitors who offers more gifts to the parents.

This is not true, but rather the gifts are offered to the one whom the parents and the girl all love. The writer also made mention of a refund of the gifts offered by the suitor to the parents back to those whom the girl does not marry, this is not also true because if this is done it will be difficult for such a person to get a girl around that particular area where the girl friend comes from to marry next time.

REMMY TINATI ALAJO, ACCRA.



• Social changes which have increased the need for child spacing include female education and employment.

Environmental Destruction And Its Effect On Women

BY PETER

NATIONAL FOOTBALL POOLS
CERTIFIED DIVIDENDS FOR...