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TO: Ms. Arvonne S. Fraser
Coordinator of the Women in Development
Program AID/PPC/WID
Agency for International Development

FROM: Kristin Anderson, Director
The EXCHANGE

SUBJECT: Grant No. AID/OTR-G-1825

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Enclosed please find a report on The EXCHANGE workshops held at the 1980 World Conference of Women in Copenhagen (Grant No. AID/OTR-G-1825).

We have included appendices listing other NGO Forum Workshops and a listing of sponsoring organizations. Printed materials generated by The EXCHANGE Project are also included.

REPORT TO THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT/
OFFICE OF WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT ON THE EXCHANGE -
A PROJECT OF THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN INSTITUTE

Kristin P. Anderson
Director
The EXCHANGE

The EXCHANGE was an ad-hoc activity organized expressly for the 1980 World Conference of Women held in Copenhagen in the summer of 1980. The purpose of The EXCHANGE was to ensure that there was an established locale for workshops and discussions on the subject of women and development for participants at the Non-governmental Organization's assembly--the FORUM. Seventy workshops involving over 1,500 women, were eventually held in The EXCHANGE.

The NGO Forum needed a special development-related agenda for several reasons. First, the purposes of both the UN and NGO meetings were much broader than the advancement of women in development. The women who work on development issues recognized that the official UN meeting would not be the location for frank discussion and open debate of the initiatives women have taken in development over the past five years. They knew it is in the nature of such meetings that political stances prevail. They also understood that the format of formal presentations and speeches used by the UN inhibits the effective exchange of information and practical planning for the future.

Public debates that confront the global issues of equality, development and peace, while important, tend to be overwhelming and lead to discouragement. Only in the context of small discussion groups is it possible to learn about what has actually been attempted by women--in both government and non-government--in many countries over the past five years. In the context of a global conference, informal settings are the most conducive to enthusiasm and effective action--despite the many problems and pitfalls to be overcome.

Secondly, the workshops organized by the NGO Forum Planning Committee were large, formal presentations that could not provide much opportunity for informal discussions and sharing of experience. These too were being organized around the large issues like peace, migration and education; not practical, development-related themes.

Finally, most of the other workshops were being organized by existing organizations and the member agencies of CONGO¹ and were not expressly development-oriented² because these agencies have other agendas.

1. See Appendix I - "Partial List of Organizations sponsoring Workshops"

2. See Appendix II - "Partial List of Workshops."

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee was responsible for supervising the advance planning, publicity, fund-raising, logistical support, and reporting for The EXCHANGE. The project as a whole was located within the African-American Institute which acted as the sponsoring agency and provided administrative and substantive support.

The staff consisted of:

Kristin Anderson, full-time Director (on leave from the Carnegie Corporation)

Ritty Burchfield, full-time Associate Director

Frank Millspaugh, part-time consultant on communications, publicity and public relations

Elsie Cross, part-time consultant on group processes and workshop design

Jill Kneerim, part-time consultant on publications

Although one objective of The EXCHANGE was to draw on the expertise of the women who were already planning to be at the meeting, the Executive Committee also raised funds so important women in the field could attend the Copenhagen meetings. Grants from the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Rockefeller Family made it possible for five Third World women leaders to attend who otherwise would not have been able to be there. They were:

Rounaq Jahan, Bangladesh
Jasleen Dhamija, Africa (India)
Desirée Bernard, Guyana
Amelia Rokotuivuna, Fiji
Icelin Seaton, Jamaica

THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In April and May, 1980, the Executive Committee began contacting Third World women they thought were likely to be coming to Copenhagen to attend the NGO Forum. By letter and cable they assembled an international committee consisting of women with experience and responsibilities in the field of development who agreed to guide the work of The EXCHANGE.

This group first met as a committee on Sunday, July 13, the day before the opening of both the UN meeting and the NGO Forum. In their meeting they began with the background work prepared by the Executive Committee and enlarged and refined the program. They determined what the

most important topics were, how they should be treated, re-named workshops, assigned responsibility among themselves for convening workshops on these topics and agreed to find other women to lead workshops on subjects outside the expertise of the committee members. They also agreed on how the Executive Committee should proceed to disseminate information about EXCHANGE workshops to attract those women among the 8,000 participants in the NGO Forum who would be interested in development discussions.

The Advisory Committee members were:

Peggy Antrobus, Chairperson. Women and Development Unit, University of the West Indies, Barbados

Desirée Bernard, Attorney, Guyana

Gayla Cook, Women in African Development Program, African-American Institute, USA

Jasleen Dhamija, ILO Specialist on Income Generation, African Training and Research Centre, Ethiopia

Eddah Gachukia, Member of Parliament, Government of Kenya

Rounaq Jahan, Department of Political Science, Dacca University, Bangladesh

Kristen Jorgensen, KULU (Women in Development), Denmark

Isabel Nieves, Senior Research Fellow, International Centre for Research on Women from Guatemala

Amelia Rokotuivuna, National Executive Director, Community Resource Centre, Fiji

Martha Stuart, Martha Stuart Communications, Inc. USA

THE PUBLICATION PROGRAM

In conjunction with The EXCHANGE workshops, a publications program was established to take notes in all of the workshop sessions and write The EXCHANGE REPORT.

A staff of seven writers was hired to take the notes and interview key women. They were:

Janet Shur, USA

NoorJehan Bhimji, Tanzania

Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Nigeria

Sandra Baptiste, Guyana

Ursula Funk, France

Viveke Vaering, Denmark

Marlene Perez, France

These reporters took almost 1,000 pages of notes during the workshops which were scheduled every weekday between July 14 and 24 from 10:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. These notes will form the basis for The EXCHANGE REPORT. a 12-16 page newspaper-like publication reporting on the most prominent issues and personalities as they emerged in Copenhagen. The REPORT will contain the names and addresses of all participants, reports of the major topics of discussion and implications for the future as they were formulated in The EXCHANGE workshops and interviews. Although the report is designed primarily for those who attended, it will also be distributed to people who were not there but who have an interest in one or another aspect of the subjects discussed. The REPORT is scheduled for publication in January, 1981.

In addition, The EXCHANGE Executive Committee has now contracted with AID/WID for a special purchase order to prepare a full transcription of the notes, edit them and have them re-typed in a narrative form to be available for scholars and policy-makers. These transcriptions are now being prepared and will be available by November 15, 1980. This submission will also contain additional information about the Third World women who convened the workshops and a full list of the women who participated in the EXCHANGE workshops.

The schedule of workshops and convenors as they actually took place in Copenhagen is attached. In the final agenda it is impossible to separate AID-funded workshops from those which were created spontaneously out of the interests and the people who participated in The EXCHANGE. This mixture was encouraged by the EXCHANGE committees.

At every juncture participation was encouraged and new workshops were added to the schedule every day as interest in certain topics developed or someone was willing to initiate a workshop in an area she know something about.

The most noteworthy development of this sort was a series of workshops initiated by French-speaking African participants who were frustrated by the lack of translation facilities in most of the NGO Forum workshops and found The EXCHANGE a conducive meeting place for a series of workshops on integrated rural development. In this way, The EXCHANGE became the creation of the participants rather than the Executive Committee or AID.

In the proposal submitted by The EXCHANGE Executive Committee to AID in May, 1980, we described a plan whereby The EXCHANGE would ensure that the following seven major topic areas would be covered:

1. Communication among women's organizations about common problems and experiences in assuming development-related projects;
2. Relationships between government women's bureaus and non-governmental women's organizations;
3. How working women have organized;
4. Uses of government statistics and data in policy-related work for women;
5. Learning directly about their needs and approaches to development from poor rural and urban women;
6. Fund-raising and project development for women's projects; and
7. How to find, fund and utilize appropriate technical assistance.

We believe that a close examination of the attached schedule will reveal how these topics were ultimately handled. The edited notes will provide full elaboration and The EXCHANGE REPORT will summarize and illuminate the highlights of the discussions.

The following is an estimated breakdown by region of the number of participants who attended The EXCHANGE workshops in Copenhagen.. These figures were extracted from the sign-up sheets for The EXCHANGE workshops. The 945 figure shown below is not the actual number of participants who attended the workshops. We would estimate that there were approximately 1,500 participants; but a certain percentage of those attending did not sign the sheets and in some cases many of the names were illegible and, therefore, were not included.

Regional Breakdown of Participants Attending
The Exchange Workshops at the 1980 World Conference
of Women in Copenhagen

Third World (Africa, Pacific, Caribbean, Latin America)	393
United States of America	225
Canada	11
Europe (including Scandinavia)	210
Denmark	93
Other (Australia, Brazil, Japan)	<u>23</u>
	945

EXCHANGE WORKSHOPS

Monday, July 14, 1980

Orientation plenary and four special-interest
planning sessions on:

Education
Changing Roles
Getting Assistance
Tools
Organizing

Tuesday, July 15, 1980

10:00-Noon

Working women organize
(Planning session - no coverage)
Convenor: Amelia Rokotuivuna, Fiji

Funding grassroots organizations: can other
women's group help?
Convenor: Kristin Anderson, USA

1:30-3:30

Women look at health and family planning
services
Convenor: Judith Helzner, USA
Resource persons: Muazzez Okay, Turkey
Dr. Jusef, Indonesia
Cornelia Muga, Kenya

Education and training: women's special
needs
Convenor: Gayla Cook, USA

World Feminists: video show and discussion
Convenor: Desirée Bernard, Guyana

3:30-5:30

Learning from rural women
Convenor: Rounaq Jahan, Bangladesh

Effective group dynamics
Convenor: Elsie Cross, USA

World Feminists: video show and discussion
Convenor: Sybil Francis, Jamaica

Wednesday, July 16, 1980

10:00-Noon

Assistance to grassroots organization
Convenor: Peggy Antrobus, Barbados

Thursday, July 17, 1980 (cont'd)

- 1:30-3:30 p.m. Income generation - case studies: Upper Volta, Mauritius, Fiji and others
 Convenor: Jasleen Dhamija, Ethiopia
- Effective group dynamics: how people work together
 Convenor: Elsie Cross, USA
- World Feminists: video show and discussion
 Convenor: Peggy Antrobus, Barbados
- Education: initiation, tradition and sex-education
 Convenor: Edda Gachukia, Kenya
- 3:30-5:30 p.m. World Feminists: video show and discussion
 Convenor: Sybil Francis, Jamaica
- Women look at health and family planning services
 Convenor: Judith Helzner, USA
- Women's changing roles and infant feeding practices
 Convenor: Isabel Nieves, Guatemala
- Research and policy: learning about rural women
 Convenor: Rounaq Jahan, Bangladesh
- Small format video as a tool in development
 Convenor: Martha Stuart, USA
- Education: initiation, tradition and sex-education
 Convenor: Edda Gachukia, Kenya

Friday, July 18, 1980

- 9:30-10:00 a.m. Video screening: Women's World Banking
 Convenor: Michaela Walsh, USA
- 10:00-Noon Funding women's development activities
 Convenor: Jasleen Dhamija, Ethiopia
- What unites women?
 Convenor: Elsie Cross, USA

Friday, July 18, 1980 (cont'd)

- 1:30-3:30 p.m. Women's bureaus and private organizations
 Convenors: Peggy Antrobus, Barbados; and
 Gayla Cook, USA
- World Feminists: video show and discussion
 Convenor: Charlotte Bunch, USA
- Rural American women and rural women
 worldwide
 Convenor: Jane Treatt, USA
- Effective group dynamics
 Convenor: Elsie Cross, USA
- Working women organize: trade unions,
 structure of wages, rural women workers,
 undocumented workers
 Convenor: Amelia Rokotuivuna, Fiji
- Credit: borrowing and saving
 Convenor: Jane Kozlowski, USA
- 3:30-5:30 p.m. Developpement rural integre (en francais)
 Convenor: Mme. Sira Diop, Mali
- Credit unions for women: World Council of
 Credit Unions
 Convenor: Jane Kozlowski, USA
- Research and policy: making a case for
 women
 Convenor: Rounaq Jahan, Bangladesh
- Small format video as a tool in development
 Convenor: Martha Stuart, USA
- World Feminists: video show and discussion
 Convenor: Desirée Bernard, Guyana

Monday, July 21, 1980

- 10:00-Noon Effective group dynamics: how people work
 together
 Convenor: Elsie Cross, USA
- World Feminists: video show and discussion
 Convenor: Desirée Bernard, Guyana
- Organization for urban and rural poor women:
 Self-initiatives--an Indian Experience
 Convenor: Habitat Organization

Monday, July 21, 1980 (cont'd)

- 1:30-3:30 p.m. Working women organize trade unions
 Convenor: Amelia Rokotuivuna, Fiji
- World Feminists: video show and discussion
 Convenor: Allison Lewis, Jamaica
- Education especially for women
 Convenor: Gayla Cook, USA
- Working together on income generation
 Convenor: Jasleen Dhamija, Ethiopia
- Video screening: Women in Sweden
- 3:30-5:30 p.m. Research and policy: learning from rural
 women
 Convenor: Brooke Schoepf, USA

Tuesday, July 22, 1980

- 10:00-Noon World Feminists: video show and discussion
 Convenor:
- Discontinuities in women's education:
 International Alliance of Women
 Convenor: Grete Borgman
- Working women organize
 Convenor: Amelia Rokotuivuna, Fiji
- Développement rural intégré (en français)
 Convenor: Mme. Kaboré
- Status of women in Bangladesh (Brazil issues)
 Convenor: Rabra Bhuisan, Bangladesh
- Effective group dynamics: how people work
 together
 Convenor: Elsie Cross, USA
- 1:30-3:30 p.m. World Feminists: video show and discussion
 Convenor: Charlotte Bunch, USA
- What unites women? Looking beyond national
 borders
 Convenor: Elsie Cross, USA
- Planning for women in development: what have
 we learned?
 Convenor: Peggy Antrobus, Barbados

Tuesday, July 22, 1980 (cont'd)

- 1:30-3:30 p.m. Feminism and community development work
 Convenor: Jan Peterson, Denmark
- Women look at health and family planning
 services
 Convenor: Judith Helzner, USA
- Working together on income generation
 Convenor: Jasleen Dhamija, Ethiopia
- Développement rural intégré (en français)
 Convenor: Mme. Kaboré, Upper Volta

Wednesday, July 23, 1980

- 10:00-Noon Radio: feminist ideology for popular
 audiences via radio
 Convenor:
- Working women organize: trade unions
 Convenor: Amelia Rokotuivuna, Fiji
- Learning about women through cultural
 forms
 Convenor: Olive Lewis, Jamaica
- Effective group dynamics: how people
 work together
 Convenor: Elsie Cross, USA
- Women look at health and family planning
 services
 Convenor: Judith Helzner, USA
- 1:30-3:30 p.m. World Feminists: video show and discussion
 Convenor: Peggy Antrobus, Barbados
- Health and family planning in Indonesia -
 slide show and discussion
 Convenor: Dr. Jusef, Indonesia
- What unites women:
 Convenor: Elsie Cross
- Third World priorities: the Kenyan
 experience - film and discussion
 Convenors: Jane Kuiru, Kenya
 Rose Waruhi, Kenya

Wednesday, July 23, 1980 (cont'd)

3:30-5:30 p.m. "Parents' Sex Education Program" - videotape
and discussion
Cancelled due to equipment failure

International Women's research network
Convenor: Brooke Schoepf, USA

Thursday, July 24, 1980

10:00-Noon Improving development cooperation between
Third World countries and Western NGO's
Convenor: Kristin Anderson

1:30-3:30 p.m. EXCHANGE wrap-up: a plenary for workshop
participants