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PROJECT STATEMENT
for the
WORLD FERTILITY SURVEY

49p

February 25, 1976

Prepared by PHA/POP for
consideration by the Research
Advisory Committee, May 24-25, 1976

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | Page |
|---|------|
| A. Project Summary..... | 1 |
| 1. Statistical..... | 1 |
| 2. Narrative..... | 1 |
| B. Expanded Narrative Statement..... | 2 |
| 1. Project Description and Background..... | 2 |
| a. Administrative Background..... | 2 |
| b. Nature and Objectives of the WFS..... | 2 |
| c. The Need for the WFS..... | 3 |
| d. Special Characteristics of the WFS..... | 5 |
| e. Project Organization..... | 6 |
| f. Progress to Date..... | 7 |
| 1. WFS Central Staff..... | 7 |
| 2. Meetings of the Permanent Advisory Committees..... | 7 |
| 3. Promotion and Explanation of the WFS..... | 11 |
| 4. WFS Documentation..... | 17 |
| 5. Publications..... | 18 |
| 6. Surveys..... | 20 |
| 2. Significance to AID Objectives..... | 21 |
| 3. Relation to Existing Knowledge..... | 22 |
| a. Management Information Systems..... | 22 |
| b. Vital Registration Systems..... | 22 |
| c. Census Programs..... | 23 |
| d. Sample Surveys..... | 23 |
| 4. Relation to Other Research..... | 24 |
| 5. Proposed Work Plan..... | 25 |
| a. Country Surveys..... | 25 |
| b. Plans for Analysis of WFS Data..... | 32 |
| 6. Research Methodology..... | 35 |
| a. Contents of the Core Questionnaires..... | 35 |
| b. Questionnaire Modules..... | 36 |
| c. Other Survey Documentation..... | 38 |
| 7. Researcher Competence..... | 40 |
| 8. Contribution to Institution Building..... | 41 |
| 9. Utilization Plans..... | 41 |
| 10. Budget..... | 42 |
| 11. Internal and External Reviews..... | 45 |
| 12. Proposing Office General Evaluation..... | 46 |

PROJECT STATEMENT

A. PROJECT SUMMARY

1. Statistical

Project Title: World Fertility Survey

New or Extension: Extension

Contractor and Address: International Statistical Institute
428 Prinses Beatrixlaan
Voorburg - The Hague, Netherlands

Principal Investigators: Sir Maurice Kendall, WFS
Project Director
E. Lunenberg, Director of the
Permanent Office, ISI

Duration: Ten years (total duration)

| <u>Total Estimated Cost:</u> | | <u>Funds Requested</u> | | <u>Anticipated Future Need</u> | |
|------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| <u>to Date</u> | | | | | |
| FY 72 | \$1,043,000 | Int. Qtr. | \$3,000,000 | FY 80 | \$1,500,000 |
| FY 73 | - | FY 77 | - | FY 81 | \$1,500,000 |
| FY 74 | \$1,000,000 | FY 78 | \$2,500,000 | | |
| FY 75 | \$1,800,000 | FY 79 | \$2,000,000 | | |
| FY 76 | \$2,200,000 | | | | |
| <hr/> | | <hr/> | | <hr/> | |
| Total | \$6,043,000 | Total | \$7,500,000 | Total | \$3,000,000 |

Project Manager: Richard M. Cornelius, PHA/POP

2. Narrative

The World Fertility Survey is an international research program whose purpose is to assist a large number of countries throughout the world, particularly the LDCs, to carry out nationally representative, internationally comparable sample surveys of fertility behavior. The WFS is undertaken by the International Statistical Institute in collaboration with the United Nations and with the cooperation of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population. It is funded principally by the UNFPA and by AID. The WFS has completed its Project Development Phase, and has already begun surveys in some 20 developing countries in the first 1½ years of its Project Implementation

Phase. It is now requested that the WFS project be extended with funding for an additional three years to a) allow all interested countries the opportunity for participation. In addition, to allow sufficient time and funding for completion of important analyses of WFS data, PHA/POP can now foresee that an additional request for extension of up to two years (to 1982) eventually will be necessary.

B. EXPANDED NARRATIVE STATEMENT

1. Project Description and Background

(a) Administrative Background

In March 1972, AID's Research Advisory Committee (RAC) recommended approval of the World Fertility Survey (WFS) project. In its resolution RAC stated that AID should approve in principle the five-year program of the WFS but that funding should be limited to the first two years, the Project Development Phase of the WFS. A report on progress in the WFS was to be submitted to RAC after one year of experience with the WFS and the project was to be resubmitted for RAC consideration after two years.

On May 31, 1972, AID awarded a grant of \$1.043 million to the International Statistical Institute (ISI) in partial support of the first two years' costs of the WFS. AID's grant amounted to approximately 45% of the total WFS budget for this period, the remainder being granted by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) in January 1973. In the Spring 1973, PHA/POP presented to RAC a progress report on the first year's activities of the WFS, indicating that progress was satisfactory.

In March 1974, the WFS was again reviewed in detail by RAC. A project statement, progress reports, and a proposal from ISI for the Project Implementation Phase were submitted to RAC for its consideration. This review resulted in the recommendation by RAC that AID continue to fund the WFS through FY 1977, its scheduled termination date. Subsequent to this recommendation, AID granted \$1,000,000 in FY 1974 and \$1,800,000 in FY 1975 in support of the Project Implementation Phase. Another obligation of \$2,200,000 in FY 1976 is being requested to support WFS activities during the period 4/1/76 - 3/31/77.

(b) Nature and Objectives of the WFS

The WFS is an international research program aimed at assisting a large number of countries, particularly the developing nations, to carry out nationally representative, internationally comparable, scientifically designed and conducted sample surveys regarding human fertility.

The primary objective of the WFS program is to provide scientific information which will permit each participating country to describe and interpret its population's fertility. Within the broad area of

fertility research, the individual country surveys undertaken as part of the WFS will strive to identify meaningful differentials or patterns of fertility as well as fertility regulation and will help in the clarification of factors affecting fertility. Improved data on these topics will clearly facilitate national efforts in economic and social planning. Employing analytical techniques now available, the WFS will also provide valuable indications of fertility levels where such information is now lacking.

In addition to providing much needed data for individual countries, the WFS represents a major effort towards the production of internationally comparable data. The experience of demographic scientists around the world has been that the interpretation of national data is greatly enhanced when put into a comparative framework. One can, for example, discover in this fashion whether a particular finding is idiosyncratic to a particular country or common to other nations of the same developmental standing. There is also considerable scientific interest in the availability of comparative data on fertility for populations which differ widely with respect to their socio-economic character.

A final objective of the WFS is the provision of training and documentation to the participating countries and the consequent yield in the institutionalization of high quality demographic research resources. The WFS aims to be a major instrumentality whereby the demographic expertise of the developed nations is focused on assisting LDCs to become self-sufficient in the scientific study of their own populations.

(c) The Need for the WFS.

In July 1972, ISI convened two Ad Hoc Technical Advisory meetings concerning the WFS, inviting to The Hague two separate groups of internationally recognized experts in demography and statistics. The First Ad Hoc Technical Advisory Meeting considered the issue of the need for the WFS and recorded the following in its report:

The Meeting was unanimously of the opinion that, in spite of progress which has been made in fertility research in recent years, there is a definite need for a concerted international effort within the framework of a WFS in order to achieve high quality internationally comparable surveys in as many countries as possible.

The Meeting reached this determination after noting that in some countries no fertility surveys of any kind had as yet been carried out, while the usefulness of fertility surveys conducted in a number of other countries was found to be limited because of inadequate sample sizes, the use of vague or untested questions, poor field control, or shortcomings in tabulations and analysis. The Meeting considered that the WFS program would be of particular importance in promoting fertility research in

those countries where little or no such research has taken place. Nevertheless, it was also recognized that, even among countries where satisfactory surveys had been conducted in the past, the results of some of these studies were now out of date and the lack of comparability in the concepts used frequently hampered the interpretation of results.

Thus, the intrinsic value of good fertility survey results to participating countries is the first reason for the need for a WFS. The lack of knowledge concerning the world's fertility is formidable, the answers still to be found are not obvious, and the need to find answers is pressing. Information provided by the WFS can identify critical policy gaps to governmental policymakers and to those responsible for operating family planning programs.

A second major advantage of the WFS arises from the need to coordinate the many disparate fertility data collection efforts being undertaken in less developed countries. During the past 15 years there has been growing interest among LDC planners in obtaining timely estimates of fertility patterns. As a result, a proliferation of fertility surveys, utilizing both national and subnational samples, has been conducted in a large number of developing nations, with no ostensible coordination or integration. There has been no cross-national uniformity in survey design, questionnaires, or analytic techniques; and therefore little opportunity for direct cross-national comparisons of data.

In view of the substantial volume of fertility survey activity on the one hand, and on the other the relatively scarce technical and financial resources available in international population research, there seems clearly a great need for a program directed at the following goals:

- coordination of many disparate but essentially similar activities into a unified endeavor;
- provision of an integrated approach to a common technical and scientific problem--measurement of fertility--perceived by many countries;
- enhancement of the scientific quality of the large number of national fertility surveys;
- assurance that countries which enter into surveys are capable of actually proceeding through to full analysis and reporting;
- provision of cross-national comparisons of fertility data; and
- more efficient and effective utilization of scarce scientific manpower for population research.

The WFS aims to provide such a program and to fulfill these needs.

Finally, the need for the WFS arises from the same concerns which led the United Nations to declare 1974 the World Population Year. These concerns, expressed by the UN as guiding principles, are:

- the need for a combined approach to population problems and development
- the necessity of finding solutions to population problems which were among the most intricate in the process of human development
- the importance of an interdisciplinary attack on population problems;
- the desirability of international cooperation and the exchange of national experience.

The WFS is one major channel for seeking solutions to the intricate problems associated with human fertility; it is interdisciplinary; international cooperation is of its essence; it seeks to relate fertility to developmental variables.

(d) Special Characteristics of the WFS

As compared with most AID-supported projects, the WFS possesses several unusual characteristics which are worthy of note.

First is the global internationalism represented in this project. Perhaps more than any other AID project, the WFS is a project which has brought together in one focused endeavor the scientific expertise of both the developed and developing world. Already demographers and statisticians from more than 25 countries have participated in the work of this project. The WFS project has crystallized a major concern of demographers throughout the world and throughout the world demographers are now bending their time and energy towards involvement in this project.

Second, from everything which has so far been discovered, it would appear that the WFS is the largest single social science research project ever attempted in the history of mankind. AID has, for example, sponsored coordinated research in the diffusion of agricultural innovations in three major LDCs and WHO has investigated aspects of the health field in several countries at once, but no one has yet ambitioned coordinated inquiry in 40 to 60 countries in virtual simultaneity. This unique scope of the WFS means that to some extent there are no precedents for the project, that the tried and true experience gained in other projects may not be applicable to this one, and that detailed planning of the project may be a much more highly contingent exercise than in most cases.

(e) Project Organization

ISI, which has overall organizational responsibility for planning and carrying out the WFS, has set up a separate project organization whose major components are the Permanent Advisory Committees and the WFS Central Staff.

Permanent Advisory Committees. The first such committee is the Program Steering Committee which provides overall substantive guidance and review for the WFS program. The committee is chaired by the President of ISI, has representatives from the UN Population Division, UN Statistical Office, UNFPA, IUSSP, and AID, and has four individual expert members appointed by ISI. Dr. Forrest E. Linder, a member of RAC and Director of the POPLAB program, is one of the individual expert members on the Program Steering Committee.

Second, the Technical Advisory Committee advises the PSC on all technical aspects of the WFS. Its members are nominated by the ISI and the IUSSP in consultation with each other and are designated as members only in their capacity as individual experts; i.e., there are no organizational representatives on the TAC. AID and UN representatives do attend the TAC as observers, however.

WFS Central Staff. The central staff consists of technical experts whose task it is to oversee the general design of the research program, ensure uniformity and comparability among individual country surveys and provide extensive consultancy services for individual countries. Technical aspects of the program are under the direction of Sir Maurice Kendall who is the Project Director and his office is located in London. The administrative headquarters for the WFS remains at the ISI Permanent Office in The Hague under its Director, Dr. E. Lunenberg.

The above describes the two major components of organization which are proper to the WFS as a project. A third level of organization should be mentioned and this is the organization at the country level.

National fertility surveys which are part of the WFS program are conducted by local agencies or organizations, assisted by WFS central staff and/or WFS-appointed consultants. In each case, a WFS team visits the country and works out with the host country scientists the plans for design and conduct of the survey. A National Director is appointed and he and his staff are briefed extensively on the nature, contents, procedures and organization for the country survey. WFS central staff stand ready to negotiate assistance to all phases of the survey, the principal criterion being always that it should be a survey of high technical quality. Middle and lower level organization of country surveys vary from country to country, and the WFS central staff assists in providing training at all levels. Ideally, data are collected by host country nationals, tabulated, analyzed and reported by host country nationals, with the WFS central staff playing a technical

assistance, facilitative role. Countries are expected to adhere to the general WFS guidelines for design and conduct of the survey and to yield up to the WFS, at a minimum, standardized tabulations from their surveys.

(f) Progress to Date

1. WFS Central Staff

In October 1972, Sir Maurice Kendall took up his post as full-time Project Director of the WFS, although he had been informally involved in all aspects of the WFS since June. By January 1973, Dr. Kendall had set up offices in London. The first staff professional arrived in late March 1973, and others have been added gradually until, at the present writing, there are approximately 27 full-time professional demographers, statisticians, and other specialists employed at the WFS Professional Centre in London. Extensive use of consultants has been made, including both those who have worked from their own home bases and those who have worked in London anywhere from two weeks to four months.

In The Hague, the Netherlands Central Bureau of Statistics provides ISI with additional office space for the WFS Administrative Headquarters at no cost. Dr. Lunenberg, the Director of the Permanent Office of ISI, has employed eight professionals, including the heads of information/publication services, finance, a contracts manager, a senior administrative officer, and a general services/personnel consultant.

2. Meetings of the Permanent Advisory Committees

Summary of Program Steering Committee Proceedings

Following is a brief summary of the proceedings of PSC. Only highlights of the meetings are presented here. More detailed reports of these proceedings are available upon request.

The PSC met for the first time in the ISI Permanent Office in The Hague on 22-23 January 1973. As this was an inaugural meeting, the PSC discussed the terms of reference and composition of the permanent advisory committees of the WFS, including its own. Agreement was reached, for example, that members of TAC should serve in their personal capacities and that there should be no organizational representation on TAC. The staffing pattern of the WFS was discussed and PSC expressed the opinion that there should be a balance of staff from various regions of the world, keeping in mind that the programme should not subtract too much talent from programmes in developing countries. The committee was informed that UNFPA had approved a major grant to ISI for the WFS and had decided to appoint ISI as executing agency for the WFS on condition that close collaboration with the UN agencies be ensured. The WFS work plan for 1973 was approved, including provision for a series of regional conferences to acquaint countries with the plans of the WFS and enlist their cooperation. An official formula for describing the WFS was worked out.

The second PSC meeting was held in Vienna, 17-18 August 1973. The PSC heard and commented on a progress report from the Project Director and offered congratulations on progress and the excellent calibre of staff being recruited. The question of research in the WFS programme was discussed and the PSC recommended that limits be placed on expenditures for research not connected with the central WFS enterprise. There was also discussion of the feasibility of carrying out the WFS in conjunction with the African Census Programme. Difficulties were foreseen by way of overloading the survey capacities of participating countries. The PSC paid special attention at this meeting to the draft version of the WFS core questionnaires. The PSC adopted a set of guidelines stipulating that definitions and classifications in the WFS should be consistent with existing international recommendations, that the number of items in the questionnaire should be reduced to essentials, that each item should be evaluated with a view to analysis and tabulation, and that the Project Director should present plans to PSC regarding country survey organization, sampling guidelines, tabulations and analyses, financial implications, and summary of experience with the draft questionnaires.

The third meeting of the PSC was convened in Princeton, New Jersey, 21-22 February 1974. A detailed progress report was presented by the Project Director. The desirability of undertaking tabulations within the participating countries was agreed. Aspects of WFS publications policy were treated as, for example, the utility of stabilizing publication of WFS documentation to a once-a-year basis. Detailed comments were made on the Abortion Module and some expressed the opinion that abortion questions should be included in the core questionnaire. This stimulated consideration of whether politically sensitive questions should be used in the core, the conclusion being that the WFS should not appear to advocate policies but remain in a strictly scientific role. The PSC questioned the development of two core questionnaires, one for developing and one for developed countries, and agreed that the WFS should promote only one core questionnaire (that intended for countries with high fertility and low contraceptive usage) although others could be made available. The role of training in the WFS was also discussed. The meeting ended by adopting a resolution that, considering the complicated objectives and numerous policy, technical and scientific aspects of the programme, the PSC expressed its support and admiration for the rapid and sound development which had taken place, its complete confidence in the leadership and staff, and expressed the view that the Project Director must have authority to make operating decisions while taking into consideration advice from committees.

For its fourth meeting on 11-13 December 1974, the PSC returned to The Hague. After hearing a progress report and a report of a meeting among ISI/WFS, UNFPA and USAID to discuss finance, the PSC discussed the future of the WFS and expressed the judgement that the programme could not end in 1977 but would need to be extended beyond this date, probably another five years. The PSC discussed the question of whether

the WFS would gain adequate access to data for purposes of comparative analysis and recommended that the WFS prepare for the next meeting of PSC a policy statement on access to data and the ultimate repository for data collected as part of the WFS. After discussing documents on training submitted to them, PSC turned to the WFS forward projection of participating countries and offered detailed comments. WFS staff were asked to prepare a number of tables for PSC consideration at the next meeting. The PSC laid down a number of criteria for admitting countries to the programme, including preference function, cost function and side conditions. After discussions of research activities and policy, and UN liaison posts, the PSC turned to the WFS Publications Programme. It was considered that the WFS Newsletter had served well its function of promoting the programme but that it should now be discontinued and replaced with an annual report. Detailed attention was given to the outline and contents of the reports for the country surveys.

The fifth meeting of the PSC was convened in London, 21-23 May 1975. The Committee heard a detailed progress report from the Project Director and made comments. The status of WFS documentation was reviewed, and the importance of including in the questionnaire items on availability of family planning was stressed. The need for extension of the WFS beyond 1977 was again recognized, and the funding agencies indicated that they would be willing to entertain proposals for extension. The Committee was informed of progress in development of computer programs for machine-editing and for computation of standard errors and design efficiency.

The sixth meeting, held 24-26 November 1975 in Kingston, Jamaica. The staffing and financial situation at WFS was discussed. An oral presentation of highlights of an evaluation of the WFS was presented by Mr. Joseph Waksberg, Chairman of the evaluation team. A progress report on the various surveys was highlighted by the presentation of a draft Country Report #1 for Fiji. Guidelines, organization, and funding for Country Report #2 analyses were discussed.

Summary of Technical Advisory Committee Proceedings

Following is a summary of the proceedings of the five TAC meetings held during the first three years of the programme. The summaries touch only highlights and focus on what seemed major points of discussion.

The first meeting of TAC was held in New York, 14-15 May 1973. The TAC were first informed of the reports of the two Ad Hoc Technical Advisory Meetings and generally concurred in the reports. Some discussion was devoted to distinguishing the WFS from Population Growth Estimate surveys. Commentary was directed also at the content of a core questionnaire. Size of sample desired, stages of sampling and various other technical issues were treated, and a recommendation that de facto residence should be the criterion in the household interview was approved. The contents of the detailed interview with individual women were discussed. The bulk of discussion, however, was centered

on the draft questionnaire prepared by Professors Westoff and Ryder. Focus was on organization and format and a great many concrete suggestions were offered for re-drafting. The meeting concluded with a discussion of the role and functions of TAC itself.

On 15-17 October 1973 the TAC convened for its second meeting in London. After considering guidelines prepared by PSC, TAC agreed that the WFS questionnaire should consist of a core schedule plus modules devoted to special topics and optional individual items countries might choose to insert. TAC felt a special questionnaire could be developed for low fertility countries. Guidelines were laid down for selection and development of questionnaire modules. Most of all, TAC made detailed recommendations on the individual items in the draft household schedule and individual questionnaire proposed for the core. Coding and tabulation were to be revised in accord with these recommendations. The meeting also discussed research which might be undertaken in connection with the main WFS survey and expressed concern that opportunities for experimental research not be lost.

Port of Spain, Trinidad, was the site for the third TAC meeting on 16-18 January 1974. A progress report was presented by the Project Director, covering central staffing and finance, regional conferences, progress in enlisting country participation, and pre-tests and pilots. TAC requested WFS to devise a plan for phasing or scheduling country participation. TAC again reviewed the draft household schedule and individual core questionnaire and again made detailed comments. Attention was devoted to questionnaire modules and TAC specified a list of topics for which modules might be developed, including consideration of possible contents. The question of optimal sample size for countries was discussed.

The fourth TAC meeting was held in Kuala Lumpur at the invitation of the Malaysian Central Statistical Office, 21-24 May 1974. The TAC continued its detailed examination of the core questionnaire which WFS staff had again revised. At this meeting, the TAC approved the version of the household schedule as revised at the meeting, and did the same for the individual questionnaire. The TAC turned its attention next to the various manuals which WFS staff had prepared and made detailed comments on the Survey Organization Manual, the Supervisors' Instructions, the Tabulation Manual ¹, and the Manual on Sample Design. Status reports on other manuals in preparation were reviewed. TAC examined the modules and assigned priorities among them as regards the importance of their application in country surveys.

The TAC returned to London for its fifth meeting, 29-31 October 1974. The amount of documentation presented for TAC consideration at this meeting was quite considerable and necessitated rapid movement through the agenda. After hearing a progress report, TAC moved through the household schedule, the individual core questionnaire, the Abortion

¹ The finalized version is known as Guidelines for Country Report No. 1

Module, the General Economic Module, the Specific Economic Module, the Manual on Sample Design, the module on the Influence of Mortality on Fertility, and discussed the survey data sheets provided by WFS. Discussion dealt with the Survey Organization Manual, final amendments to the individual core questionnaire, Supervisors' Instructions, Interviewers' Instructions, Family Planning Module, and the module on Factors other than Contraception affecting Fertility. Country participation projections of WFS were commented on, as were documents on training, tabulation and analysis, prototype country reports, and coding guidelines. TAC considered a document on research in the WFS programme and recommended seven priority research topics which the WFS should begin to develop. It was also proposed that there would be need for a research director on the WFS staff and a small advisory committee on this topic. The term of appointment of TAC was for two years from the first TAC meeting. Accordingly, after the fifth TAC meeting the committee was reconstituted by ISI in consultation with IUSSP.

The reconstituted TAC held a sixth meeting in London, 15-17 September 1975. The Project Director reported that the project documentation was more or less completed, with the exception of the Editing and Coding Manual. Regarding the use of modules, some members again stressed the desirability of certain priority modules, but it was agreed that none of the modules should be considered mandatory. Regarding survey progress, some members expressed concern over the lack of participation by African and East European countries thus far. It was noted that African countries had been delayed intentionally in deference to the Census Program; and intensive efforts to recruit East European countries through the ECE would soon be mounted.

Regional Co-ordinating Committee

The Regional Co-ordinating Committee (RCC) was to advise the PSC on the co-ordination and exchange of information with inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations sponsoring regional population programmes, especially field surveys. The RCC met in The Hague, 24-26 January 1973. A need for another meeting soon thereafter was obviated by the WFS plan to sponsor a series of regional conferences for the purpose of explaining the WFS to interested officials and scholars in countries of the various regions. Members of the RCC were instrumental in assisting WFS with the staging of these conferences.

3. Promotion and Explanation of the WFS

a. Announcing the WFS

One of the first important tasks of the Project Development Phase was to announce the WFS programme to the nations of the world. The dissemination of information about the programme began during the Pre-Project Phase. It was continued, with greater intensity, during the period after July 1972. Below are listed some of the measures taken for announcing the WFS.

- A press release was sent out to major mass-communication media in August 1972.
- A six-page announcement was sent to some 65 professional journals in October 1972.
- The reports of the July 1972 Ad Hoc Technical Advisory Meetings were sent to the directors of national statistical agencies, directors of demographic research institutes and a selected list of other organizations and individual experts.
- A brochure on the WFS was prepared and printed. It was sent to an extensive mailing list. By January 1975, 10,000 copies had been distributed in English, French, Spanish and Arabic.
- A newsletter was established whose first issue appeared in the spring 1973.
- A report on the WFS was presented at the 39th Session of the International Statistical Institute in Vienna, August 1973. In addition, the Presidential Address dwelt extensively on the WFS.

b. Attendance at Meetings

An important way of promoting and explaining the WFS programme was to attend meetings and present public addresses on the nature and scope of the WFS programme. The following are some of the meetings attended in late 1972 and 1973.

| Meeting | Site and Date | Representative |
|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| UN Statistical Commission | Geneva, November 1972 | J. Ch. W. Verstege |
| Conference of European Statisticians | Geneva, June 1972 | E. Lunenberg |
| Conference of Asian Statisticians | Manila, July 1972 | M. Concepcion |
| UNFPA Ad Hoc Meeting of Inter-Agency Consultative Committee | Geneva, February 1973 | E. Lunenberg Sir Maurice Kendall |
| UN Population Commission | New York, March 1973 | Sir Maurice Kendall |
| CICRED Seminar on Demographic Research in Relation to Population Growth Targets | St. Augustine, Trinidad April 1973 | K. T. de Graft-Johnson |

| Meeting | Site and Date | Representative |
|--|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Population Association of America | New Orleans, April 1973 | Sir Maurice Kendall |
| ECA--3rd Meeting of Non-UN Organizations interested in Population Work in Africa | Addis Ababa, April 1973 | J. G. C. Blacker |
| ECE--28th Session | Geneva, May 1973 | P. J. Bjerve |
| UNFPA, Inter-Agency Consultative Committee | Geneva, June 1973 | J. G. C. Blacker |
| Conference of European Statisticians | Geneva, June 1973 | Sir Maurice Kendall |
| Directors of International Statistical Training Centres Seminar | Budapest, August 1973 | E. Lunenberg |
| ISI--39th Session | Vienna, August 1973 | Sir Maurice Kendall |
| IUSSP-General Conference | Liege, September 1973 | Sir Maurice Kendall |
| WHO-2nd International Conference on Vital and Health Statistics | Copenhagen, October 1973 | F. E. Linder |
| 4th International POPLAB Conference | Chapel Hill, N.C., November 1973 | A. M. Whitfield |
| Conference of Asian Statisticians | New Delhi December 1973 | Sir Maurice Kendall |

The above list is not extended into 1974 for the reasons that it would become tediously extensive and the primary promotional work of the WFS had been accomplished by 1974.

c. WFS Regional Conferences

Six regional conferences were held, all but one of them occurring between December 1973 and February 1974. In each case the purpose was to acquaint scholars and officials of countries with the scope and nature of the WFS, including discussion of more technical aspects of the proposed surveys. The aim was also to learn of the interests and intentions of countries as to possible participation. Discussion proceeded into considerable detail; the draft WFS questionnaires and other documentation were distributed and considered.

Africa

The first WFS-sponsored regional conference was held in Addis Ababa, 3-4 December 1973, and was sponsored by the UN Economic Commission for Africa. The opening address was given by Mr. R. K. A. Gardiner, Executive Secretary of ECA, and General G. Askar (Egypt) was elected chairman of the meeting. The following countries were represented:

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| Cameroon | Mauritius |
| Dahomey | Morocco |
| Egypt | Senegal |
| Ethiopia | Sierra Leone |
| Gambia | Sudan |
| Ghana | Tanzania |
| Lesotho | Tunisia |
| Malawi | Uganda |
| Mali | Upper Volta |
| Mauritania | Zaire |

After the opening, Sir Maurice Kendall addressed the conference at length regarding the background and purposes of the WFS. He informed the representatives concerning the current progress of the WFS programme and invited comment and discussion. During the discussion, questions were raised regarding mixed populations, appropriate executing agencies, translations, taboos, and special sampling problems. The conference undertook detailed consideration of the draft questionnaires which had been provided, and heard descriptions of the WFS Publications Programme and plans for training.

The Middle East

The second regional conference was held in Beirut, 14-15 December 1973, under the auspices of the UN Economic and Social Office in Beirut (UNESCO, renamed ECWA). Local arrangements were handled by Mr. J. C. Chasteland of UNESCO, Country participants were as follows.

| | |
|---------|--------------|
| Bahrain | Oman |
| Iraq | Saudi Arabia |
| Jordan | Syria |
| Kuwait | Yemen |
| Lebanon | |

Representatives of various international agencies, non-governmental organizations and universities also attended. Sir Maurice Kendall delivered an introductory address explaining the WFS programme and its current status. Extensive discussion of the draft WFS questionnaires occurred, and training and data analysis were also treated.

The Caribbean

The third conference was for the English- and French-speaking countries of the Caribbean region. It was convened at Port of Spain,

Trinidad, 14-15 January, 1974. The following countries were represented.

| | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Aruba | Guadeloupe |
| Bahamas | Guyana |
| Barbados | Jamaica |
| British Honduras | Martinique |
| Curacao | Montserrat |
| France | St. Kitts |
| French Guyana | Trinidad and Tobago |

WFS staff presented general descriptions of the programme and led detailed discussions of the core questionnaire. It appeared that it would be difficult to conduct a separate survey for each country in the Caribbean and the hope was voiced that several countries might join together to undertake a single survey or that some form of Caribbean regional sub-programme might be developed. The French-speaking countries presented an unusual case since they were French possessions. It was thought that perhaps France might be willing to finance surveys in these countries. The meeting was hosted by Dr. R. J. Harewood, the WFS regional co-ordinator for the Caribbean.

Europe and other developed countries

The Conference of European Statisticians convened a meeting in Geneva on behalf of the WFS, 30-31 January 1974. Chairman of the meeting was Mr. Barrie Davies, Chief Statistician of the UN Economic Commission for Europe. The following countries sent representatives.

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Australia | Japan |
| Austria | Netherlands |
| Belgium | Norway |
| Bulgaria | Poland |
| Canada | Portugal |
| Denmark | Spain |
| Finland | Sweden |
| France | Switzerland |
| Germany, Federal Republic of | Turkey |
| Hungary | United Kingdom |
| Ireland | United States |
| Israel | Yugoslavia |
| Italy | |

The meeting, which included developed countries who are not members of ECE, had before it the WFS questionnaire for low fertility countries. Participants undertook a detailed discussion of the questionnaire. Discussions during the meeting indicated that a majority of countries represented intended to carry out, within the next few years, a fertility and family planning survey of the type proposed by the WFS, and a desire to cooperate in the activities of the WFS was generally expressed. At the close of the meeting, representatives filled out questionnaires

designed to indicate what the individual members thought were the prospects of their countries participating in WFS-type surveys. From these questionnaires, it appeared that approximately fifteen developed countries could be expected to undertake a survey.

Asia

The fifth regional conference was sponsored by the UN Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE, renamed ESCAP), 14-16 February 1974, in Bangkok. The following countries sent representatives.

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Australia | Malaysia |
| Bangladesh | Nepal |
| Fiji | Pakistan |
| Hong Kong | Papua-New Guinea |
| India | Philippines |
| Indonesia | Singapore |
| Iran | Sri Lanka |
| Japan | Thailand |
| Korea, Republic of | Vietnam, Republic of |

In response to a questionnaire, sixteen of the attending countries indicated there would be a need for a fertility survey in their country within the next three years. India stated a fertility survey was currently under way. As in other conferences, detailed presentations were made concerning the nature and scope of the WFS and extensive discussion was devoted to the draft WFS questionnaires.

Latin America

The sixth and final regional conference was held in Mexico City, 15-17 July 1974, under the auspices of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) and with the assistance of Lic. Ruben Gleason, Director of Statistics for Mexico. The following countries participated.

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Argentina | El Salvador |
| Bolivia | Guatemala |
| Brazil | Mexico |
| Colombia | Panama |
| Costa Rica | Paraguay |
| Dominican Republic | Peru |
| Ecuador | |

The pattern of programme description followed by discussion of draft documentation was again adhered to, so that participants received a thorough understanding of the WFS programme. As a result of the conference, the participation of four countries was considered definite and another six very probable.

4. WFS Documentation

The specific nature of much of the WFS Documentation will be described later under Research Methodology. However, since the development of documentation was one of the primary activities during the early years of the project, a brief summary of progress to date is provided here.

a. Core Questionnaires

The WFS has developed two core questionnaires. One of these is aimed at countries of high fertility and low contraceptive usage (this questionnaire is referred to internally as Mark I). The other was devised to be applied to countries of low fertility and high contraceptive usage, such as many developed countries in Europe and elsewhere (Mark II). The core questionnaires are organized into a household schedule and the questionnaire for individual women. Work was begun on the individual core questionnaire in the spring of 1973. Early drafts were produced by Professors Charles Westoff and Norman Ryder of the Office of Population Research, Princeton University, who took as their point of departure the UN publication Variables and Questionnaire for Comparative Fertility Surveys, produced by the IUSSP Committee on Comparative Studies of Fertility and Fertility Planning.

After an early draft had been commented on by the TAC, it was sent to approximately 200 scientists around the world. Comments from these numerous correspondents were collated by Dr. Jack Harewood of the University of the West Indies. After additional extensive comments and suggestions by the TAC, the revised final version was prepared by the WFS central staff.

b. Questionnaire Modules

The individual core questionnaire is just that: a core. It represents the minimum amount of information that a country might be expected to seek from its population of ever-married women of child-bearing age. Most countries will wish to study certain topics in greater depth. To assist them in doing so, the WFS has prepared supplementary material, known as 'modules,' which can be incorporated into the questionnaire. The modules deal with two kinds of variables: those which affect fertility directly, and those explanatory of fertility. The modules which deal principally with variables of the first type are:

1. Fertility Regulation Module
2. Abortion Module
3. Factors other than Contraception affecting Fertility
4. Family Planning Module

Those which treat variables explanatory of fertility are:

5. Economic Modules

6. Community-Level Variables
7. General Mortality Module
8. Influence of Mortality on Fertility.

Several of these questionnaire modules have been pretested in the field. Substantive revisions resulting from these pretests are being incorporated into the modules.

c. Other Survey Documentation

One of the aims of the WFS is to insure that each WFS survey is designed and executed in such a way as to produce data of the highest quality. Since in some developing countries, the WFS is being undertaken by individuals with only limited experience with national fertility surveys, the WFS has drafted a series of manuals for use in guiding WFS surveys. Even in countries where several surveys have been conducted in the past, the manuals serve as a discussion of recommended WFS survey techniques, and thereby help insure the comparability of the resulting data. High quality comparable data are further insured through frequent visits by experienced WFS survey staff.

Following is a list of WFS manuals:

- Survey Organization Manual
- Manual on Sample Design
- Training Manual
- Supervisors' Instructions
- Interviewers' Instructions
- Editing and Coding Guidelines
- Guidelines for Country Report No. 1

A more detailed discussion of the nature and purpose of each of these manuals will follow under Research Methodology.

5. Publications

In addition to the production of the basic documentation, the WFS programme established a publications unit in the Administrative Centre, The Hague. The Information and Publications Office of ISI/WFS issued both public relations material and scientific papers. So far, the following publications had been issued.

WFS Brochure.

A brief brochure explaining the nature of the WFS, its purpose, and how to learn more about the programme was produced. The brochure was distributed in English, French, Spanish and Arabic. Thus far, over 10,000 copies have been distributed.

WFS Newsletter.

A non-periodic Newsletter was begun in 1973. Publications were:

- Newsletter No. 1: October 1973
- Newsletter No. 2: February 1974
- Newsletter No. 3: May 1974
- Newsletter No. 4: July 1974
- Newsletter No. 5: November 1974
- Newsletter No. 6: April 1975

The circulation of the Newsletter grew to over 4,000. In December 1974, the WFS Programme Steering Committee congratulated the ISI/WFS on the Newsletter and, judging that it had performed its basic promotional function, recommended that its publication be ceased after Newsletter No. 6.

However, recognizing the need to continue a regular publication to cite project developments, the WFS initiated the WFS Diary in February 1975. This publication is distributed monthly to WFS Permanent Committee members and others actively involved in the WFS program. It provides abstracts of survey progress, WFS travel, proceedings of committee meetings, and other relevant events.

WFS Occasional Papers.

A series of occasional scientific papers was begun and, as of this writing, sixteen have been published, as follows:

1. William G. Duncan, 'Fertility and Related Surveys'
2. J. C. Caldwell, 'The World Fertility Survey: Problems and Possibilities'
3. Samuel Baum et al., 'World Fertility Survey Inventory: Major Fertility and Related Surveys 1960-1973: Asia'
4. Samuel Baum et al., 'World Fertility Survey Inventory: Major Fertility and Related Surveys 1960-1973: Africa'
5. Samuel Baum et al., 'World Fertility Survey Inventory: Major Fertility and Related Surveys 1960-1973: Latin America'
6. Samuel Baum et al., 'World Fertility Survey Inventory: Major Fertility and Related Surveys 1960-1973: Europe, North America and Australia'
7. J. C. Caldwell, 'The Study of Fertility and Fertility Change in Tropical Africa'
8. Ronald Freedman, 'Community-Level Data in Fertility Surveys'
9. Ronald Freedman, 'Examples of Community-Level Questionnaires'
10. Gyorgy T. Acsadi, 'A Selected Bibliography of Works on Fertility'
11. Deborah Freedman (with Eva Mueller), 'Economic Data for Fertility Analysis'
12. Deborah Freedman and Eva Mueller, 'Economic Modules for use in Fertility Surveys in Less Developed Countries!'
13. Helen Ware, 'Ideal Family Size'
14. David Goldberg, 'Modernism'
15. M. A. Sahib et al., 'The Fiji Fertility Survey: A Critical Commentary'
16. M. A. Sahib et al., 'The Fiji Fertility Survey: A Critical Commentary--Appendices'

WFS Basic Documentation

The WFS is now in the process of publishing all of its basic documentation in an effort to facilitate dissemination of WFS survey techniques. The Basic Documentation series will consist of the following:

1. Core Questionnaire
2. Survey Organization Manual
3. Manual on Sample Design
4. Training Manual
5. Supervisors' Instructions
6. Interviewers' Instructions
7. Editing and Coding Manual
8. Guidelines for Country Report No. 1

As of this writing, Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 5 are already published as part of this series, and the remainder are in preparation for publication.

6. Surveys

The majority of activities described thus far were undertaken during the Project Development Phase of the WFS, which "ended" June, 1974. The important aim of the WFS during this period were to organize and staff a central organization, develop the methods and materials for mounting an international program of surveys, and recruit as many countries as possible into the program. By comparison, the main thrust of the Project Implementation Phase has been to actually conduct these surveys and analyze results.

Not surprisingly, there is no sharp line of demarcation between the Project Development and Project Implementation Phases; the two merge into each other. Surveys were mounted in Fiji, Malaysia, and South Korea prior to the start of the Project Implementation Phase in July 1974. By the same token, many Project Development Phase activities have continued beyond June 1974. The questionnaire modules and other documentation are regularly revised even now to reflect new insights uncovered by actual field experience. Moreover, recruitment of new countries and solidification of intent already expressed by many countries is, of course, an important ongoing task for the WFS.

Over 20 countries are already in the WFS program; and there is no reason to doubt that the original goal of 50-60 countries will be reached if all interested countries are allowed to participate. Table I below provides a listing of all ongoing surveys. To say that a survey is "ongoing," in the present context, means that operations are somewhere between the initiation of preparatory work and the completion of Country Report I. On this understanding, as of January 1976 the following surveys are ongoing.

Table I. Developing Countries Currently Participating in the WFS

| <u>Asia and Oceania</u> | <u>Latin America and Caribbean</u> |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Bangladesh | Colombia |
| Indonesia | Costa Rica |
| Korea | Dominican Republic |
| Malaysia | Guyana |
| Nepal | Jamaica |
| Pakistan | Mexico |
| Sri Lanka | Panama |
| Thailand | |

As Table II under Proposed Work Plan will show, many other developing nations have expressed a definite interest in participating in the WFS. As regards the developed nations, surveys are already completed or underway in Denmark, Finland, Japan, Netherlands, and the United States. An additional 17 developed countries are expected to enter the program.

2. Significance to AID Objectives

The WFS is significant to AID objectives in at least four respects.

First, the WFS is a major undertaking in international scientific cooperation. It will fulfill objectives set forth by the United Nations in many statements but especially in the documents pertinent to the World Population Year. Cooperative international endeavors are important to the objectives of AID. The WFS may in fact pioneer new patterns of international scientific cooperation.

Second is the comparative knowledge of fertility and family planning practices. The WFS will provide to policymakers of LDCs (a) a scientifically based body of knowledge concerning the patterns of fertility and family planning behavior for a representative sample of their populations, and (b) a basis for comparing their fertility and family planning practices with the fertility conditions in countries similar to their own. The provision of such knowledge to policymakers, particularly in LDCs, will be a major step toward formulation of more effective population policies and programs and as such is highly consistent with AID's mandate in the field of population.

Third, the WFS results will be of operational significance. For example, findings will reveal usage patterns and relative success of different contraceptive methods, or will indicate which subgroups of the population are not being reached by existing programs. These findings will be of utility to AID's assistance for family planning programs.

Fourth, the WFS has as one of its goals institutional development. The WFS provides assistance to countries in training manpower and developing the organizational capabilities for assessment of fertility levels and family planning practices in the 1970's. This development of manpower and institutions will have beneficial effects on fertility research and other demographic and social science research efforts within the countries. Institutional development is an additional aspect of the WFS which is significant to AID objectives.

There is perhaps one additional matter of significance to AID which should be mentioned. This is the fact that in the WFS program AID has entered into a highly constructive and close working relationship with UNFPA and other UN agencies for a particular task. In doing so, AID is taking concrete steps towards more effective and efficient utilization of scarce resources in the population field. Given the considerable resources which countries are devoting to fertility surveys, it is clearly in the interest of the major donor agencies such as AID and UNFPA to work together so that duplication of effort is avoided and so that countries which wish to undertake such surveys are constrained to make them high quality surveys. The WFS thus represents a new stage in the maturing relationship between AID and UN organizations, under which the two parties work concretely and constructively towards the discharging of common tasks to the benefit of both.

3. Relation to Existing Knowledge

Developed countries and other donors (including AID) have taken broad initiatives in providing developing nations with technical assistance in demographic/family planning data collection and analysis. Since data needs and capabilities can vary substantially between developing nations, a variety of demographic/family planning methodologies have been introduced. Following is a listing of the most common of these data collection techniques.

a. Management Information Systems

These systems are designed to provide information required by decision makers in family planning programs. Normally information on the number and characteristics of new family planning clients and sometimes information on revisits to clinics are obtained as well as data on contraceptive stocks, personnel, etc. Where commodities are distributed through retail outlets or through village distribution points, acceptor data are not usually collected.

b. Vital registration systems

If coverage and completeness are both adequate, these systems can provide accurate and timely fertility data, both on the national and subnational level. The data normally provided include age-specific fertility rates, crude birth rates, and parity data. These data are

useful for describing fertility patterns and trends, but they cannot be used for in-depth analysis of the determinants and consequences of fertility. Sample registration and dual record systems have similar limitations.

c. Census Programs

Censuses - the complete enumeration of a population - can provide relatively accurate data on a broad range of subjects (including fertility) and can do so even for small local areas. However, taking a census is very expensive and therefore it is usually done at infrequent intervals (e.g., every ten years).

d. Sample Surveys

Sample surveys afford a great deal of flexibility with respect to the type of data collected. The most common types of population surveys are:

(1) KAP/Prevalence Surveys

These surveys primarily gather information on knowledge and use of family planning methods and often collect only limited data for fertility analyses. Furthermore, they usually focus on subnational samples, and therefore, do not provide national estimates.

(2) Fertility Surveys

These surveys (particularly single-round retrospective surveys) have become very popular in the last ten years. The size, representativeness, quality and range of variables have varied considerably, producing data of varying quality. For this reason, the cross-national comparison of results is often difficult, if not impossible.

In comparison to all of the above methodologies, the WFS has several characteristics that make it unique. First, the WFS is being conducted in a large number of countries in a relatively short period of time, utilizing a standardized questionnaire. This affords WFS the opportunity for international comparison of results, a possibility absent in previous surveys. Second, the WFS includes an extremely wide range of items related to fertility and fertility-regulating behavior, and therefore will lead to a better understanding of fertility on the national (and in some cases, subnational) level. Third, the strict emphasis by WFS on quality control will result in data that will improve the existing data base, rather than duplicate it. At the same time, the WFS will not obviate the need for more accurate techniques of vital data collection, such as vital registration and census enumeration.

4. Relation to Other Research

A major matter of concern to the WFS is coordination with other research programs, particularly those which are ongoing in LDCs and from which, if coordination is absent, the WFS could potentially detract. The WFS has accorded central attention to this question. One criterion for recruiting staff, for example, is that "the WFS should avoid recruiting scientists whose work is vital to existing demographic programs in developing countries."

A chief strategy for coordinating with other research programs has been to approach directly those responsible for directing these programs and to discuss and work out coordination. A major step in this direction has been taken by incorporating into the permanent advisory committees of the WFS representatives from those agencies and organizations which are likely to be conducting related programs.

These committee representatives assure that potential problems of coordination and conflict with other research programs are systematically brought to the attention of ISI/WFS and resolved. For example, each of the UN agencies represented on the WFS Program Steering Committee have considerable responsibility for, and strong interest in, the African Census Program. Potential overtures of WFS to African countries were discussed in PSC meetings with the UN representatives laying down guidelines and conditions which will ensure coordination and non-duplication of efforts.

ISI's activities during the WFS Project Development Phase included consultations with UN and other agencies. WHO, UNESCO, the World Bank, and the regional conferences of statisticians have been kept closely informed and their advice sought. The Conference of European Statisticians and the UN Statistical Commission have publicly and formally expressed their support for the WFS, and reference has been made to the WFS in reports of the UN Population Commission. Support was also expressed at the December 1973 conference of African Statisticians in Addis Ababa. It should be noted that Fiji volunteered to be the first nationwide pilot program for the WFS as a result of a presentation given at the Conference of Asian Statisticians.

Individual governmental bodies, other than AID and UNFPA, have also expressed support for the WFS. Direct contributions have come from the Netherlands, Norway, and Great Britain. Canada and Sweden have also expressed an interest in providing bilateral or central assistance. Many other interested governments have preferred to channel their assistance through the UNFPA and their support of the WFS has been voiced in UNFPA consultative committee meetings. Official and semi-official expressions of interest and support have been received from several dozen governments and a number of these have indicated that they are prepared to provide support, at a minimum, for surveys in their own countries.

The International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) is cooperating in all aspects of the WFS program. IUSSP is represented on the WFS Program Steering Committee, appoints members to the Technical Advisory Committee in consultation with ISI, and has oriented several of its research projects towards the WFS.

The U.S. Census Bureau's International Statistical Programs Center (ISPC) has provided technical support to the WFS since its inception. ISPC carried out, at AID's request, an inventory of fertility and fertility-related surveys during the period 1960-1974. At present, ISPC is also providing invaluable assistance in data processing for several WFS surveys.

The above only summarizes the varied and widespread network of communication, cooperation, and assistance that exists between the WFS and other research organizations. In fact, it would be difficult to locate a single existing institution concerned with international demographic research which has not been consulted and whose cooperation has not been sought and received. This international cooperation is certainly one of the best means for insuring that the WFS exercise compliments other fertility research.

5. Proposed Work Plan

A. Country Surveys

Twenty-five developing countries are now participating in the WFS in the sense that a survey-design visit has at least been carried out and the government is firmly committed to conducting a survey under an agreed timetable. However, the state of work varies from country to country: some are waiting until a later date to commence activities; others are now in progress; and a few are virtually completed.

Regarding future surveys, the Programme Steering Committee requested that during 1975 the WFS develop a list of priority countries for further inclusion in the programme. Working with the PSC's suggested criteria for inclusion, and taking into account the financial and manpower constraints operating upon the WFS programme, the staff developed a forward plan which was presented to PSC for approval in November 1975. Table II not only summarizes the present status of the WFS, but also presents its plans for the future. Attention is confined for the most part to developing countries, since these countries command as a matter of policy the vast majority of WFS resources.

The forward planning described in Table II is a product of a number of assumptions:

1. The WFS has as its goal the participation of approximately 40 developing nations, equally representing all regions of the world.

TABLE II: PRESENT AND FUTURE PARTICIPATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD FERTILITY SURVEY PROGRAMME

| Country | Population (millions)* | Availability of Fertility Data** | Existence of Family Planning Programme*** | Year of Field Work | Status as of January 1976 |
|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---|--------------------|--|
| ASIA AND OCEANIA | | | | | |
| <u>Already Participating</u> | | | | | |
| 1. Bangladesh | 73.7 | N | G | 1975-76 | Field work in progress |
| 2. Fiji | 0.6 | N | G | 1974 | Preparation of Country Report I in progress; to be completed 3/76. Methodological report published |
| 3. Indonesia | 136.0 | D ₂ | G | 1976 | Pre-testing underway |
| 4. Korea, Rep. of | 33.9 | F ₂ | G | 1974 | Machine editing underway |
| 5. Malaysia | 12.1 | D ₂ | G | 1975 | Preparing tabulations for Country Report I |
| 6. Nepal | 12.6 | D ₂ | G | 1976 | Currently evaluating results of pre-test |
| 7. Pakistan | 70.6 | F ₂ | G | 1975 | Editing and coding in progress |
| 8. Sri Lanka | 14.0 | D ₂ | G | 1975 | Editing and coding in progress |
| 9. Thailand | 42.1 | F ₁ | G | 1975 | Machine editing underway |

* Source: Population - 1975 World Population Data Sheet of the Population Reference Bureau Inc.

** Availability of Fertility Data

N = No national survey ever done, or survey before 1965
 D₁ = National demographic or multipurpose survey, 1965-69
 D₂ = National demographic or multipurpose survey, 1970-75
 F₁ = National fertility survey, 1965-69
 F₂ = National fertility survey, 1970-73

*** Existence of Family Planning Programme

N = No Programme
 G = Government sponsored or approved program
 NG = Non-government programme

Source: World Fertility Survey Inventory, ISPC
 U.S. Bureau of Census, April, 1974
 and more recent information

Source: Family Planning in 5 Continents
 IPPF, October, 1973

Table II (continued)

-27-

| Country | Population (millions)* | Availability of Fertility Data** | Existence of Family Planning Programme*** | Year of Field Work | Status as of January 1976 |
|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---|--------------------|--|
| <u>To Be Included</u> | | | | | |
| 10. Burma | 29.8 | N | N | 1977-78 | Recommended for inclusion by PSC. No contact yet made |
| 11. India | 613.2 | D ₂ | G | 1977-78 | Several discussions held, including visit in 1/76; no firm commitment as yet |
| 12. Philippines | 44.4 | D ₂ | G | 1977 | Definite interest expressed by M. Concepcion but request delay to 1977; possibility Japan may finance |
| LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN | | | | | |
| <u>Already Participating</u> | | | | | |
| 13. Colombia | 25.9 | F ₁ | G | 1976 | Pilot survey completed in 1974. Survey-design visit completed and agreement signed for full survey in 1976; preparatory work in progress |
| 14. Costa Rica | 2.0 | N | G | 1976 | Survey-design visit completed 9/75. Request for funding submitted to UNFPA; preparatory work in progress |
| 15. Dominican Republic | 5.1 | D ₂ | G | 1975 | Editing in progress |
| 16. Guatemala | 6.1 | N | G | 1976 | Survey-design visit completed 10/75. Request for funding submitted to UNFPA |
| 17. Guyana | 0.8 | N | N | 1975 | Machine editing underway |
| 18. Haiti | 4.6 | D ₂ | N | 1977 | Survey-design visit completed 2/75. Proposal under revision |

Table II (continued)

| Country | Population (millions)* | Availability of Fertility Data** | Existence of Family Planning Programme*** | Year of Field Work | Status as of January 1976 |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---|--------------------|---|
| 19. Jamaica | 2.0 | F ₂ | G | 1975 | Editing and coding in progress |
| 20. Martinique/ Guadeloupe | 0.7 | F ₂ N | N G | 1975-76 | Associate status, financed by France Field work in progress |
| 21. Mexico | 59.2 | N | G | 1976 | Survey-design visit completed 10/74. Preparatory work in progress |
| 22. Panama | 1.7 | D ₁ | G | 1975-76 | Field work in progress |
| <u>To Be Included</u> | | | | | |
| 23. Argentina | 25.4 | N | G | 1977 | Director, Statistical Office, stated intent to participate, 9/75 |
| 24. Brazil | 109.7 | D ₂ | G | 1977-78 | Preliminary discussions in progress, 1/76 |
| 25. Ecuador | 7.1 | N | G | 1977-78 | Interest expressed by Director, National Institute of Statistics and Census |
| 26. Peru | 15.3 | D ₁ | G | 1977 | Interest expressed by National Planning Institute and Census Bureau. |
| 27. Trinidad/ Tobago | 1.0 | F ₂ | G | 1976 | Director of Statistical Services stated intent to participate; survey-design visit scheduled 3/76 |
| 28. Venezuela | 12.2 | F ₂ | G | 1977 | Official interest expressed, but provisions for financing have yet to be worked out |

Table II (continued)

-29-

| Country | Population (millions)* | Availability of Fertility Data** | Existence of Family Planning Programme*** | Year of Field Work | Status as of January 1976 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|-----------------------|---|
| AFRICA | | | | | |
| <u>Already Participating</u> | | | | | |
| 29. Kenya | 13.3 | N | G | 1977-78 | Survey-design visit completed 8/75. Work deferred until late 1976. United Kingdom expected to finance |
| 30. Lesotho | 1.1 | D ₂ | NG | 1976-77 | Survey-design visit underway, 1/76 |
| <u>To Be Included</u> | | | | | |
| 31. Algeria | 16.8 | D ₂ | N | 1977-78 | Inclusion considered desirable. No contact yet made |
| 32. Cameroon | 6.1 | N | N | 1977 | Firm intention expressed by Director, National Statistical Office |
| 33. Ghana | 9.9 | F ₂ | G | 1977 | Interest expressed by Regional Institute for Population Studies. Pilot survey to study multilingual problems completed 1975 |
| 34. Mali | 5.5 | N | G | 1977-78 | Recommended for inclusion by PSC. No contact yet made |
| 35. Malagasy, Republic of | 7.5 | D ₂ | NG | 1977-78 | Recommended for inclusion by PSC. No contact yet made |
| 36. Mauritius | 0.9 | N | G | 1977-78 | Associate status survey conducted 1975; possible full WFS survey later |
| 37. Morocco | 17.5 | N | G | 1977-78 | Survey-design visit completed 6/74. Continued interest but timing uncertain |

Table II (continued)

-30-

| Country | Population (millions)* | Availability of Fertility Data** | Existence of Family Planning Programme*** | Year of Field Work | Status as of January 1976 |
|--------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---|--------------------|--|
| 38. Nigeria | 62.9 | D ₂ | G | 1977-78 | Some indication of interest; preliminary visit scheduled 2/76 |
| 39. Senegal | 4.4 | D ₂ | NG | 1977-78 | Official intent to participate expressed by Director of Statistics |
| 40. Sudan | 18.3 | N | G | 1977-78 | ECA reports some interest; preliminary visit made 12/75 |
| 41. Tanzania | 15.4 | D ₂ | G | 1977-78 | Some indications of interest; no official contact yet made |
| 42. Togo | 2.2 | D ₂ | NG | 1977 | Definite official interest expressed by Director of Statistics |
| 43. Zambia | 4.7 | N | NG | 1977-78 | Recommended for inclusion by PSC. No contact yet made |

MIDDLE EAST

Already Participating

| | | | | | |
|------------|------|----------------|---|---------|--|
| 44. Egypt | 37.5 | F ₂ | G | 1974-75 | Associate status |
| 45. Jordan | 2.7 | F ₂ | G | 1976 | Survey-design visit completed 10/75. Request for funding submitted to UNFPA. |
| 46. Kuwait | 1.1 | N | N | 1976 | Financing own survey. Preparatory work about to begin |
| 47. Syria | 7.3 | N | N | 1977 | Survey-design visit completed 10/75. Work deferred until 1977 |

Table II (continued)

-31-

| Country | Population (millions)* | Availability of Fertility Data** | Existence of Family Planning Programme*** | Year of Field Work | Status as of January 1976 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|---|-----------------------|---|
| <u>To Be Included</u> | | | | | |
| 48. Iran | 32.9 | D ₂ | G | 1977 | Preliminary visit underway 1/76. Expected to finance own survey |
| 49. Iraq | 11.1 | D ₂ | NG | 1977 | Preliminary visit completed 11/75 |
| 50. Turkey | 39.9 | D ₂ | G | 1977 | Survey-design visit scheduled 2/76. Official intent to participate expressed by State Institute of Statistics |

Note: Fifty potential surveys are presented in Table II to allow for some slippage.

2. To achieve this goal, a five-year extension of the project - to 30 June 1982 - is necessary.

3. In order that comparative analyses may be completed by this date, no new surveys should be started after 1 January 1979. This assumes (based on our experience to date) that each survey takes an average of 24 months to complete. Under this plan, all surveys will be complete by 1 January 1981.

4. The WFS is still envisaged as a single-round exercise. There have been several discussions regarding the feasibility and desirability of a second round of surveys, especially in certain "key" developing countries. If this proposal is realized during the proposed time extension, the assumptions outlined above (and the "round-one" workplan described in Table II) will be inoperative.

B. Plans for Analysis of WFS Data

1. Country Report I

All WFS survey agreements with participating countries stipulate that the country shall have the responsibility for preparing and publishing Country Report I. The contents of Country Report I are specified in a manual produced by WFS staff entitled, Guidelines for Country Report I. The first report will describe the survey field work and present the basic results for major demographic and social strata with a minimum of multi-variate analysis or complex data evaluation and adjustment. The report is to consist of three chapters of text, interspersed with some tabular material. The three chapters of text deal with the background of the study, the methodology of the study, and a summary of substantive findings. The proposed tables are: nuptiality and exposure to childbearing; fertility; preferences for number and sex of children; knowledge and use of contraception; and use of contraception as related to fertility preferences.

2. Additional Country Reports

Country Report I is designed to be issued immediately after completion of the field work so that the basic findings from the country's fertility survey will become available quickly. The second report is to appear somewhat later and will evaluate the basic measures in more detail and utilize multivariate analysis for appropriate problems arising out of the basic tabulations.

WFS staff and consultants produced a draft prototype of Country Report II during Summer 1975. This document was considered by the TAC at its sixth meeting in September 1975. Discussions at the TAC indicated that

it would not be possible to specify a prototype of Country Report II with the kind of precision achieved for Country Report I. This conclusion was reflected in a recommended change in the title for the document: "Preliminary Guidelines for the Further Analysis of the Country Survey Following Report I." TAC also recommended that WFS establish a series of Technical Bulletins on particular topics related to further analysis.

As of January 1976, the WFS central staff had produced a new draft of the "Preliminary Guidelines for Further Analysis." This draft was in process of being circulated to staff and committee members for comment. In addition, a tentative list of topics for the Technical Bulletins series had been prepared.

Since it is virtually certain that some form of assistance to participating developing countries will be necessary if they are to analyze their data further, WFS has begun exploring the nature and extent of technical assistance which can be provided. Given the plans in Table II for continuing assistance to new countries in initiating their surveys, requests for assistance with further analysis of the data are likely to severely tax the manpower resources of the WFS Professional Centre. Fortunately, other research institutions and agencies throughout the world have expressed their willingness to provide this technical assistance under the general aegis of the WFS programme. Institutions which have expressed an interest in providing various kinds of support for further analysis are:

Australian National University
CELADE
ECE Secretariat
East-West Population Institute
IUSSP
London School for Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
Population Council
Princeton University
ORSTOM
University of Michigan
UN Population Division

In addition to continuing its elaboration of the substantive issues in further analyzing the country survey data, the WFS plans to initiate discussions concerning such assistance with the above institutions during 1976.

3. Comparative Analyses of Country Surveys

The final product of the WFS programme will include a series of comparative studies of fertility in various regions of the world, as well as an attempt at a global view of fertility. In order to accomplish the comparative analyses, the WFS proposes to establish a cut-off date after which no new country surveys will be funded. The final years of

the programme will be devoted to comparative analyses of the data.

The WFS has found it difficult to specify a clear strategy for a comparative analysis of the data. The primary reason for this difficulty is that there are not yet a sufficient number of countries that have finished their surveys, completed the analysis and reporting for Country Report I, begun further analyses, and made the data available for cross-national studies. The IUSSP Committee of Comparative Analysis of Fertility has prepared a document on cross-national studies and the WFS is now considering to what extent the document's recommendations are applicable to the WFS.

The WFS fully accepts the importance of developing a strategy for comparative analysis of country survey results as soon as possible. This same sentiment is shared by the WFS Technical Advisory Committee and Programme Steering Committee. During the remainder of 1976, the WFS will be reporting to these two committees on its strategy for comparative analysis. The WFS will also be in close communication with other research institutions, especially those which have expressed their willingness to provide technical assistance.

4. Publications

The status of WFS publications programme as of January 1976 has been outlined in a section of this paper (ie Progress to Date). To date, sixteen Occasional Papers have been published. The WFS has also published four documents in its Basic Documentation series. In accordance with a recommendation made by the PSC, the basic documentation will be made available in English, French, Spanish and Arabic, although the English version will be most widely distributed.

As a result of another PSC recommendation, the WFS will explore the establishment of documentation depositories in various libraries and research centres around the world. It is believed that WFS documentation can serve as important prototypical materials for future surveys, not only of fertility but of many other topics. Consequently, there is need for ensuring widespread availability of the WFS documentation. Depositories would be institutions which agree to maintain complete sets of WFS documentation and to make them available to interested persons and organizations.

As indicated previously in the Work Plan, a new series entitled Technical Bulletins is being established within the WFS publications programme. This series will deal with special topics, both substantive and methodological, which arise in the analysis and reporting of WFS results. The form and distribution of this series is currently under discussion.

Countries have been asked to furnish WFS with 500 copies of Country Report I for international distribution. It is anticipated that additional reports which are undertaken using the country's own resources will also

be published by the country, although the WFS will provide assistance in cases of special need.

Materials resulting from the work at the WFS Professional Centre will be issued through the publications programme. In the event that the WFS establishes collaborative arrangements with other research institutions such as those listed earlier, the WFS may well stipulate that studies arising from these agreements be issued through the WFS publications programme.

Finally, in the later years of the programme, the WFS will publish a series of comparative studies, examining survey results on a cross-national basis. Specific plans for the publication of comparative studies will be generated in conjunction with the plans for the comparative analyses themselves.

6. Research Methodology

a. Contents of the Core Questionnaires

The household schedule of the WFS fulfils three purposes. First, it provides a listing of household members, which is required in order to identify respondents eligible for the individual interview. Second, by collecting data on such matters as age, sex and marital status for each household member it provides the researcher with the denominators necessary for calculating certain demographic statistics. Third, it may provide useful contextual data on factors which may relate to fertility, such as ownership of 'modern' objects, membership in cultural or ethnic groups and nature of housing conditions. Furthermore, where resources permit, countries which lack good vital statistics may wish to consider a household sample much larger than that used for the individual interview, so as to provide key natality statistics with a low sampling error.

The WFS individual questionnaire is intended for use in interviewing ever-married women in the child-bearing years, residing in households. The child-bearing period is usually defined for the sake of convenience as ending at age 50. The concept of ever-married is interpreted as broadly as possible and an ideal survey universe would include all women exposed to the risk of child-bearing. The exact delineation of the survey universe will inevitably vary from society to society.

The individual questionnaire is divided into seven sections which may be briefly described as follows:

(1) Respondent's Background. Residence and migration status, size of community in which respondent spent her formative years, age, education and ability to read. Countries are encouraged to add other variables such as religion, language, ethnic group.

(2) Maternity History. The heart of a fertility survey; detailed information which can yield analytic outputs such as live births

by sex and date of occurrence, incidence of infant and child mortality, incidence of pregnancy wastage, prevalence and duration of lactation, proportion of women currently pregnant, with expected birth date and sex preference.

(3) Contraceptive Knowledge and Use. An examination of the situations or practices which affect the number of children women have; levels of acquaintance with, and use of, contraceptive methods.

(4) Marriage History. Complete marital history of respondent. Country adaptation required for non-legal and informal unions; dates of start and termination of unions for use as a proxy for length of exposure to risk of pregnancy.

(5) Fertility Regulation. Intermediate variables which lie between fertility and the underlying socio-economic and cultural milieu; the risk of conception as governed by fecundity or infecundity and the use or non-use of contraception. Capacity and desire for more children, including the number desired and preference concerning the sex of the next child; if an ever-user, information on use of contraception currently, or in the open birth interval if not now using; if a never-user, information on intentions to use in the future.

- Fertility Regulation Module. An optional version of Section 5, called the Fertility Regulation Module, is recommended for use by most countries employing the core questionnaires. The module is an expansion of Section 5 and in addition to the contents of the section examines the use of contraception in the last closed birth interval and enquires whether the pregnancy resulting in the last birth was wanted. This type of information is necessary for a number of important measurements such as influence of contraceptive use, fecundability, and the effect of lactation on the ability to conceive.

(6) Work History. Detailed occupational information on respondent's work both before and after marriage; useful for examining the association between women's work status and fertility.

(7) Current (Last) Husband's Background. His education, ability to read, community lived in during formative years, occupation.

b. Questionnaire Modules

Following is a description of each of the modules.

Fertility Regulation Module

This module has been previously described above under Section 5 of the core questionnaires.

Abortion Module

The Abortion Module consists of questions to be appended to Section 2 (Maternity History) and Section 3 (Contraceptive Knowledge and Use) of

the core questionnaire. The appendate to Section 2 consists of interval-by-interval probing for non-fertile pregnancies, while the questions added to Section 3 have two purposes: to probe, in yet another context, whether the respondent has ever resorted to induced abortion; and to measure the attitudinal climate with respect to the use of induced abortion. The module is not recommended for use in countries in which anti-abortion laws are rigorously enforced or where the topic of abortion is one of high political sensitivity. It is, however, strongly recommended for use in all other countries.

Factors other than Contraception affecting Fertility

Fertility levels are determined not only by the use or non-use of contraception, but by a host of other 'intermediate' variables causally situated between fertility and the underlying socio-economic and cultural milieu. This module supplements the core questionnaire by gathering information on: age at menarche, temporary separation of the marriage partners, frequency of sexual intercourse, post-partum amenorrhoea, post-partum abstinence, pathological sterility and menopause.

Family Planning Module

The Family Planning Module may be substituted for Sections 3 and 5 of the core questionnaire. In addition to information gathered by Section 3 and the Fertility Regulation Module, this module obtains the following information: knowledge of, and visits to, places where family planning advice and supplies may be obtained; when contraception was started and with which method; approval/disapproval of contraception by never-users; reason for discontinuation of last contraceptive method; source of contraceptive supply and its adequacy. The module is not intended as a vehicle for comprehensive evaluation of a national family planning programme but can supply some basic information on the success of certain aspects of such a programme.

Economic Variables

Three modules have been developed which deal with economic variables useful for fertility analysis. The three modules deal with family income, asset holdings, and economic costs and benefits of children. The income and assets modules provide measures of the family's economic position; the cost and benefits module attempts to assess the effect of children on the family's economic situation, and women's work opportunity and cost. (Published as WFS Occasional Paper Nos. 11 and 12.)

Community-Level Variables

This module deals with community-level variables which are characteristics common to all the persons living in a community, such as presence or absence of a hospital or mean educational level. Among the topics covered in this module are transportation and communication facilities; health levels and facilities; family planning; facilities and prevalence; education; agricultural and/or industrial development levels. The collection of community-level data is a supplementary investigation to the core questionnaire, requiring such activities as conducting interviews with community leaders, consulting reference works, and/or

simple observation of the community itself. This module requires special adaptation wherever used. (Published as WFS Occasional Papers Nos. 8 and 9.)

General Mortality Module

Many countries with deficient systems for the recording of vital events may be interested in measuring mortality in addition to fertility. This module obtains information on deaths of household members in the 24 months preceding the interview, survival of first spouse, survival of parents, whether the person being interviewed is an eldest living offspring, and survival of offspring of ever-married women. General infant and child, and adult mortality may be estimated from this information.

c. Other Survey Documentation

Survey Organization Manual

The recommended core questionnaires are the most basic documents of the WFS. Next in order of importance is the Survey Organization Manual. The manual is intended to provide a national survey director with a detailed discussion of the planning and organization of his country's fertility survey. It encompasses a brief overview of the WFS programme and explains the principal scientific standards to which the WFS surveys aspire. A general introduction provides the scope and purpose of the WFS together with its organization and functioning. The bulk of the Survey Organization Manual is devoted to discussion of planning and organizing the national survey. The role of the national executing agency and survey director are clarified. Basic planning decisions are set forth; stress is laid on the necessity for specifying survey objectives and preparing a time-table. The manual traces the life of a fertility survey in an operational sense from the first decisions to preparation of documents, to sampling, pre-testing and training, and on to field work; then to coding and editing; and finally to tabulation, analysis and reporting.

The Survey Organization Manual is important as a basic document for orientation of the national survey director to the total enterprise of a national fertility survey within the context of the WFS. However, the manual is an overview and is incomplete without the other primary documents which make up the WFS documentation.

Manual on Sample Design

The primary objective of the Manual on Sample Design is to assist survey directors to understand the main issues involved in sample design for a WFS country survey and hence to collaborate fruitfully with sampling experts provided by the WFS. The manual begins with remarks on sampling theory and practice, with special reference to the WFS. Next attention is directed to the population of study and the manual discusses eligibility of women for the individual interview, eligibility of households, geographical coverage of the sample and time reference. The characteristics of a good sampling frame are laid down and then applied for individuals, households and dwellings. The pros and cons of mapping

versus listing are discussed, as well as problems in the demarcation of boundaries for area sampling frames. Finally, possible links between the WFS sample and other survey samples, past and future, are considered. The Manual on Sample Design next turns to a description of the sample design recommended for countries participating in the WFS. First the role of the household schedule is examined as regards the listing of persons and the listing of households. The manual devotes a chapter to examining varying probability sampling and multi-stage sampling. The manual concludes with a treatment of sampling for supplementary operations.

Training Manual

The training of survey personnel is of paramount importance if WFS surveys are to obtain high quality data. The purpose of the WFS Training Manual is to provide guidelines for the organization and conduct of training courses for personnel involved in the various operations of WFS country surveys. The manual concentrates on the organization, methodology and contents of training courses. After introductory remarks on the role of trainers, the training of intermediate-level staff and more junior staff, and planning for training, the manual deals with training for preparation of the sample, i.e., mapping areas and listing of households. The manual next deals with the role of the pre-test in the training programme and its importance for testing out the entire survey organization and its personnel. Criteria and guidelines for recruiting junior field staff, field supervisors and interviewers are presented; minimum requirements for candidates are suggested. The manual then focuses on training of field workers for implementation of the sample and discusses how to deal correctly with the sample, the identification of sample dwellings, the household interview, eligibility for the individual interview and how to handle non-response. Attention is directed also to recruitment and training of office editors and coders; the manual includes suggestions on the organization of office editing and coding.

Supervisors' Instructions

The document Supervisors' Instructions is for the use of survey field staff during the training and field work periods. The document spells out some of the field procedures recommended by the WFS. It also provides materials which can form a basis for the country to produce its own manual for supervisors, for the supervisors' instructions are written with the expectation that they will have to be adapted and re-written in each country. This document begins by discussing the general role of the supervisor, the importance of training in the survey and the nature of the survey document with which the supervisor will be working. The organizational and administrative duties of the supervisor are explained. The duties of the supervisor vis-a-vis interviewers include assignment of interviews, scrutinizing questionnaires, handling non-response, spot-checking and re-interviewing and similar supervisory tasks. The document details the procedures for scrutinizing the completed questionnaires handed in by interviewers. Field work control sheets are presented and explained, as well as the importance of keeping a progress record for

each interviewer. Finally, guidance is given on field supplies, information about the field work area and other administrative matters.

Interviewers' Instructions

The document Interviewers' Instructions is similar to that for the supervisor in that it is for use during training and field work, presents interpretation of documents and procedures, and is expected to be adapted to the country situation. It begins with an explanation of what the WFS is about and the objectives of the country's survey. The general structure of the country's survey is explained. In the second part of the Interviewers' Instructions, the duties and responsibilities of the interviewer are defined, including her relationship to the supervisors, how she receives assignments, checking completed questionnaires, keeping adequate records and general conduct in the field. Finally, the document turns to detailed question-by-question explanation of the household schedule and the individual questionnaire.

Coding Guidelines

The document Coding Guidelines consists of suggestions on how to organize coding of data and the codes, checks for coding and editing procedures. Guidelines are given first on the organization of coding and editing and the WFS recommendations as to thoroughness of checking for accuracy are presented. The duties of coders and editors are explained, together with the jobs of coder-verifiers and editor-verifiers. Ways of handling semi-open-ended and open-ended questions are discussed. The document concludes with a discussion of computer checking and input media. Appendices present a suggested coding scheme for the household schedule and the WFS recommended codes for occupation.

Guidelines for Country Report I

The nature and content of Guidelines for Country Report I are described earlier under Proposed Work Plan.

7. Researcher Competence

The WFS is undertaken by the International Statistical Institute (ISI), a professional society devoted to the development and improvement of statistical methods and their application throughout the world. ISI is an independent non-profit organization founded in 1885, with permanent headquarters in The Hague, Netherlands. ISI members have gained worldwide recognition in their field and represent more than 80 countries and international organizations. They work in government, industry, universities, research organizations and international agencies, and their fields of interest cover the entire range of theory and application of statistics. In addition, ISI has a ex officio members the directors of national and international statistical agencies, thus providing entree to the statistical agencies of the world

ISI has set up a separate project organization for the WFS. The Project Director is Dr. Maurice G. Kendall, a distinguished British

statistician who has made major contributions to the field of statistics over the last 30 years and who has had long experience with the conduct of sample surveys. At present, Dr. Kendall has assembled a staff of 27 professional demographers and statisticians whose experience extends to similar work in every region of the world. In addition, the WFS project has already made extensive use of both short- and long-term consultants, thus widening its circle of expertise. Through its staff, consultants and permanent advisory committees, the WFS has already achieved access to the finest demographic and statistical talent in the world, and the cooperation of IUSSP in this venture stands as further assurance that senior scientists throughout the world are dedicating their time and experience to the success of the WFS. In The Hague, administrative aspects of the WFS are handled by Dr. E. Lunenberg who has been Director of the ISI Permanent Office for over 15 years and brings to WFS administrative and financial concerns a long history of experience in international programs.

8. Contribution to Institution Building

A long run goal of the WFS is to institutionalize fertility and other demographic surveys particularly in LDCs and, where feasible, in the national statistical offices. For the short run, ISI/WFS is conducting a project under which nationals from participating countries will be trained and assisted in all aspects of a major nationwide sample survey. The immediate emphasis of the training is on how-to-do-it, and concentrates on creating and utilizing the skills necessary to carrying through a survey from inception to final report.

In addition to its training aspect, the WFS documentation will also serve as an important artifact for future use in developing countries. This documentation represents one of the few attempts to date to publish and disseminate a set of manuals on all aspects of survey research. For countries with limited survey experience, these manuals undoubtedly will aid in institutionalizing survey capabilities.

9. Utilization Plans

The utilization of research results is an important factor in WFS operations. For example, the WFS actively seeks the involvement of host government statistical or family planning agencies in all aspects of the survey operations. This strategy not only permits these government agencies the opportunity to gain experience in conducting high quality survey research, but it also increases the likelihood that the resulting data will be utilized by the government for evaluation and planning purposes.

Recommendations from the July 1972 Ad Hoc Technical Advisory Meetings stressed that results from the WFS should be made available in non-technical form for policymakers and other interested parties and that ISI/WFS should take special steps to insure that findings reach beyond the scientific community and into policy formulation.

The WFS policy of involving host governments in survey operations and its proposal for the extensive dissemination of Country Reports are indicative of their concern for this recommendation.

10. Budget

The major financial costs of the WFS programme have to date been borne by UNFPA and AID. The support of these agencies is presently pledged until 30 June 1977. As noted earlier, ISI/WFS is actively soliciting additional programme support from donor nations in the population field and expects these efforts to meet with some success.

Current expenditures for the WFS programme to 31 March 1976 are expected to amount to \$7.719 million, plus an additional commitment of \$0.347 million on the part of UNFPA to individual country surveys. Total expenditures, including current commitments, thus amount to \$8.066 million of which \$2.724 million is for Country Surveys and \$5.342 million for Core expenditures. The latter figure includes \$1.541 million which was allocated for the Project Development Phase of the WFS (1 July 1972 to 30 June 1974).

The figure \$8.066 million was financed out of a total of \$8.216 million in grants applicable to the period ending 31 March 1976, leaving an unspent balance of \$150,000 to be carried forward. A summary of the financing to 31 March 1976 is shown below.

To 31 March 1976
(in US\$000's)

| | <u>AID</u> | <u>UNFPA</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <u>Grants</u> | | | |
| Country Surveys | 1,401 | 1,374 | 2,775 |
| Core | <u>2,442</u> | <u>2,999</u> | <u>5,441</u> |
| Total Grants | 3,843 | 4,373 | 8,216 |
| <u>Expenditures</u> | | | |
| Country Surveys | 1,186 | 1,027 | 2,213 |
| Commitments (for Country Surveys) | 164 | 347 | 511 |
| Core | <u>2,343</u> | <u>2,999</u> | <u>5,342</u> |
| Total Expenditures | 3,693 | 4,323 | 8,066 |
| <u>Balance</u> | 150 | - | 150 |

For the period 1 April 1976 to 30 June 1977, ISI projects a total expenditure of \$6.506 million, of which \$2.386 is allocated for Country Surveys, \$3.640 for Core costs, and \$.480 million for Further Analysis of Country Surveys. Firm commitments for \$1.893 million of the \$6.506 million have been made by the UNFPA, with further commitments for Country Surveys likely to follow. AID has allocated \$2.2 million in

support of the WFS during the period 1 April 1976 to 31 March 1977, but final commitment of these funds is being withheld pending congressional approval of the appropriations bill for the FY 1976 foreign assistance program. Funds to support the WFS during the period 1 April 1977 to 30 June 1977 (and nine months beyond, if a time extension is granted) will be obligated during the Interim Quarter (1 July 1976 - 30 September 1976). The above figures can be broken down as follows:

Commitments and Projected Expenditures: 4/1/76 - 6/30/77 (\$000's)

| | <u>USAID</u> | <u>UNFPA</u> | <u>Undecided</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|--------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|
| <u>Grants</u> | | | | |
| Core | * | 1,546 | - | 1,546 |
| Committed (Surveys) | * | 347 | - | 347 |
| <u>Expenditures</u> | | | | |
| Country Surveys | 550 | 1,427 | 409 | 2,386 |
| Further Analysis of Country Surveys | 240 | 240 | - | 480 |
| Core | <u>2,094</u> | <u>1,546</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>3,640</u> |
| <u>Total</u> | 2,884 | 3,213 | 409 | 6,506 |
| <u>Still Required</u> | 2,884 | 1,320 | 409 | 4,613 |

* A total of \$2.2 million for core costs and surveys has been allocated by AID but not yet committed.

For the period 1977-1980, as evidenced in Table II earlier, WFS has a fairly firm fix with regard to the developing countries which are to be included in the programme. The exact timing of each survey, however, is difficult to determine. Consequently, it is also difficult to determine when funding will be required. Despite this, WFS has projected its budget needs through 1980, based on the plan to establish a cut-off date of 1 January 1979 for starting new surveys. These budget projections may be summarized as follows:

| <u>Time Period</u> | <u>Country Surveys</u> | <u>Further Analysis of Country Surveys</u> | <u>Core</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------------|------------------------|--|--------------|---------------|
| 1977-1978 | 1,638 | 660 | 3,273 | 5,571 |
| 1978-1979 | 1,638 | 850 | 3,282 | 5,770 |
| 1979-1980 | 820 | 690 | 2,821 | 4,331 |
| <u>Total</u> | <u>4,906</u> | <u>2,200</u> | <u>9,376</u> | <u>15,672</u> |

Total financial requirements of the WFS programme for the period 1 July 1977 to 30 June 1980 are \$15.672 million. Of this total, \$8.032

million is requested from UNFPA, \$6.909 million from AID, and \$.731 million from other donors. Core costs (including "projectized core") account for \$9.376 million of the total, with \$4.096 million and \$2.200 allocated to Country Surveys and Further Analysis of Data, respectively. In allocating costs for the currently undecided surveys, the breakdown shown below has assigned costs to "Other" funding sources where information is available which indicates that other donors are likely to support some of the surveys. For the rest of the undecided surveys, costs have been evenly allocated between UNFPA and USAID.

| <u>1977-1980</u> (US\$ 000's) | <u>UNFPA</u> | <u>USAID</u> | <u>Subtotal</u> | <u>Other</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| <u>Core</u> | 4,688 | 4,688 | 9,376 | - | 9,376 |
| <u>Country Surveys</u> | | | | | |
| Assigned | 1,263 | 520 | 1,783 | - | 1,783 |
| Undecided | 941 | 941 | 1,882 | 431 | 2,313 |
| <u>Further Analysis</u> | | | | | |
| Assigned | 880 | 500 | 1,380 | | 1,380 |
| Undecided | 260 | 260 | 520 | 300 | 820 |
| <u>Totals</u> | 8,032 | 6,909 | 14,941 | 731 | 15,672 |

PHA/POP proposes the following AID funding levels for the WFS over the period of the project extension:

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Interim Qtr. | \$3.0 million |
| FY 1977 | - |
| FY 1978 | \$2.5 million |
| FY 1979 | \$2.0 million |
| <u>Total 1977-1980</u> | <u>\$7.5 million</u> |

The total AID funding level of \$7.5 million proposed by PHA/POP is slightly in excess of the \$6.909 requested by ISI. This excess is justified by the need to allow for the possibility that a) a few additional unforeseen countries will wish to enroll in the programme; b) survey and/or headquarters operating costs will rise above expectations; or c) a second round of the WFS may be desired in a few key developing nations.

The WFS is expected to produce an enormous amount of data between 1976 and 1980. Alternative strategies for analyzing these data are now under review. Should it become desirable for WFS to undertake a large portion of this analysis, or if second round surveys are desired in a large number of countries, PHA/POP can easily foresee the need for another extension of two years or more. If the purpose of this extension is analysis of first round data, a two year extension with additional funding of about \$3.0 million is envisioned.

11. Internal and External Reviews

The WFS has undergone several formal and informal internal reviews since its inception. At the time of AID's first grant award to ISI, each PHA/POP (then TA/POP) Division was asked to comment on the proposed WFS project, as were the Regional Bureaus. Comments were very favorable. Since that time, the WFS has been evaluated informally by PHA/POP and PHA/PRS on an annual basis prior to the obligation of AID funds. In addition, AID auditors have on at least three occasions inspected ISI financial records and have, in each instance, certified that ISI accounting procedures are sound. Finally, on two previous occasions (in 1972 and 1974), RAC reviewed the WFS in detail and gave its firm support. Throughout the proposed time extension period, the WFS will continue to be subject to periodic internal evaluations and/or audits.

An external review of the WFS program has been sought on at least three occasions. Prior to the implementation of WFS determinations regarding the feasibility and desirability of the project, the views of a panel of five experts (Conrad Taeuber, Arthur Campbell, W. Parker Mauldin, Norman Ryder, and C. Chandrasekaran) were solicited. Their responses were supportive. These same issues were considered again in the July 1972 Ad Hoc Technical Advisory Committee Meetings. Again, the project was deemed both feasible and desirable.

More recently, an Evaluation Task Force (ETF), appointed by WFS' principal funding agencies UNFPA and AID, visited the WFS Professional Centre in London, 20-29 October 1975. The ETF was comprised of Mr. J. Waksberg (Chairman; U.S.A.), Dr. H. Suyono (Indonesia), and Dr. R. K. Som (India). Mr. R. Cornelius (AID) and Ms. S. Melchior (UNFPA) acted as rapporteurs.

The ETF held a series of interviews with key WFS personnel and examined various documentation and publications. They discussed the WFS objectives, the programme's organizational set-up, the methodology of WFS survey work, and areas of accomplishments as well as future intentions and aspirations of the WFS programme. The terms of reference for ETF, as drafted by Dr. Gille (UNFPA) and Dr. Ravenholt (AID) were:

To review WFS goals, structure, instrumentalities, priorities and accomplishments and assess its effectiveness and efficiency in meeting objectives, taking into account the needs of countries.

General satisfaction was expressed by the ETF with the international composition of the staff recruited by WFS. The ETF considered the more or less standard design, documentation and operational methods of WFS justifiable in light of the goals of ensuring internationally comparable data, maintaining survey costs within a range of \$150,000 - \$200,000, and minimizing initial start-up costs for a given country survey.

The ETF expressed general satisfaction with the status of WFS coverage of the world's population, assuming that India and a number of African countries would be enrolled in the near future. It hoped that the WFS programme would be extended beyond 1977 in order that the objectives of the programme might be achieved. Considering the present coverage of surveys and noting that the WFS was a single-round effort, the ETF suggested that consideration be given to repeating the effort every ten or fifteen years.

Mr. Waksberg presented a summary of ETF findings at the sixth meeting of the PSC in November 1975. The final report under revision as of this writing will be presented to the funding agencies and WFS at a later date.

12. Proposing Office General Evaluation

Since its inception four years ago, the WFS has generated considerable enthusiasm in the scientific community. Indeed, successful implementation of the WFS has largely been due to the close cooperation between many of the world's leading demographers and statisticians, who have served as consultants or permanent advisory committee members. Throughout the demographic community, there is the realization that the WFS constitutes the most far-reaching fertility data collection effort attempted thus far and that it will do much to further the understanding of human fertility.

The merits of the WFS are widely known among developing world planners as well. In many cases, the WFS is providing a vehicle for gaining invaluable experience in the collection of high quality fertility data where such experience thus far has been lacking. In countries where national surveys have been conducted previously, the WFS will serve as an additional data set for comparison and for planning purposes.

The WFS, then, is an important project not only for its contribution to the scientific literature, but more importantly as an important source of sound fertility data for LDC economic planners and family planning program administrators.


The progress of the WFS is commendable. Surveys are ongoing in more than 20 countries and several Country Reports will be published in 1976. With the increased emphasis on African countries, all regions of the world will be adequately represented in the project. In sum, the continued success of the WFS is very probable.

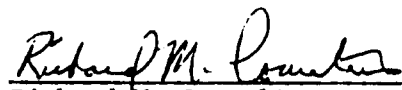
Despite its overall success, the WFS has not been without its problems. For example, participation by the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China is not likely. Moreover, efforts to enroll India, Brazil, and Nigeria have not resulted in firm commitments as yet (although Brazil is very likely to participate).

Nonetheless, PHA/POP remains convinced that the WFS will achieve broad world coverage, and that it will result in a qualitative leap forward in our understanding of fertility behavior in developing nations.

PHA/POP recommends that this project be approved and be accorded the highest priority.

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