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WORLD PROGRAMME OF ACTION CONCERNING DISABLED PERSONS

Report of the Secretary-General

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 31/123 of 16 December 1976, the General Assembly proclaimed the year 1981 International Year of Disabled Persons. Activities relating to the preparations and observance of the Year were subsequently considered by the Assembly at its thirty-second, thirty-third, thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth sessions.

2. In its resolution 36/77 of 8 December 1981, the General Assembly, inter alia, expressed its satisfaction to all Member States which had elaborated national policies and programmes for the implementation of the objectives of the International Year of Disabled Persons; took note of the activities undertaken by organizations in the United Nations system and the relevant non-governmental organizations in observance of the Year; urged Member States to make every effort to consolidate and build further on the results of the Year in order to secure prevention of disability, rehabilitation and full integration of the disabled in the society and, in this respect, to consider maintaining, where appropriate, the national committees or similar bodies established for the Year; again invited Member States to submit national reports to the Secretary-General on their implementation of the Plan of Action for the International Year of Disabled Persons and, in particular, to consider elaborating, on the basis of their experiences, national long-term programmes of action in the field of disability; requested the Secretary-General to convene in 1982 a meeting of the Advisory Committee to finalize the draft World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, in the light of comments by Member States, international organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations, with a view to its adoption by the Assembly at its thirty-seventh session; requested the Advisory Committee to consider at its fourth session the advisability of proclaiming the period 1983-1992 as the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons and to submit its views to the Assembly at its thirty-seventh session; requested the Advisory Committee to study the possibility of creating an optional international identity card for disabled persons with the purpose of facilitating the international travel of disabled persons; urged the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to assure the successful follow-up of the Year, in particular the finalization of the World Programme of Action; also requested the Secretary-General and the heads of specialized agencies and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system to ensure necessary co-operation and co-ordination of their activities relating to the disabled; further requested the regional commissions to give high priority to the formulation and implementation of regional programmes related to equalization of opportunities for disabled persons, as well as prevention and rehabilitation, and urged the specialized agencies and relevant organizations of the United Nations system to continue the implementation of such programmes; invited relevant non-governmental organizations to continue and expand their programmes related to the disabled in order to maintain the momentum given by the Year; and decided to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-seventh session an item entitled "World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons" and requested the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at that session.

3. The present report is submitted in compliance with this resolution. It has been prepared on the basis of reports received from Member States and organizations and bodies of the United Nations system as well as by international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. It supplements the Secretary-General's report to the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly contained in document A/36/471 of 23 October 1981 and presents information on developments having taken place since its issuance.

#### II. ACTIVITIES OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DISABLED PERSONS

4. In accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 36/77, the fourth session of the Advisory Committee was held at Vienna from 5 to 14 July 1982. In response to paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 of the same resolution, the Committee finalized the draft World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons in the light of comments by Member States, international organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations with a view to its adoption by the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session and considered the advisability of proclaiming the period 1983 to 1992 as the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons as well as the possibility of creating an optional international identity card for disabled persons. In addition, the Committee discussed and recommended for adoption by the Assembly a number of short-term activities to be undertaken at the international level in the context of the implementation of the World Programme of Action. The report of the Advisory Committee on its fourth session can be found in the addendum to the present report.

#### III. ACTIVITIES AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

5. As at 31 December 1981, national committees had been set up in 141 countries and territories. In addition to the 125 countries and territories listed in document A/36/471, (p. 7), the following countries and territories had established national committees or similar bodies: Bahamas, Bulgaria, Burundi, Gabon, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Mauritania, Mali, Maldives, Mongolia, Panama, Puerto Rico, Republic of San Marino, Tunisia.

6. In response to paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 36/77, the following countries have submitted National Reports on the observance of the Year: Australia, Austria, Argentina, Bahamas, Belgium, Brazil, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, China, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Fiji, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Jamaica, Jordan, Kuwait, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mauritius, Morocco, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, San Marino, Seychelles, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zimbabwe.

7. The above-mentioned national reports have been supplemented by an analysis of the statements made by representatives of 61 Governments during the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly as well as official data collected by United Nations officials while on mission in some 51 countries. The information thus gathered focuses on the following themes:

A. National programmes of action

8. In addition to the countries mentioned in document A/36/471 (pp. 8 and 9), several other national committees have prepared national plans or programmes of action. In the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Pakistan, Paraguay, the Philippines, Portugal, United Kingdom and the Sudan, the national plans or programmes of action cover the decade 1981/1982-1991. In France, the short-term action programme launched in May 1982 provided for structural changes aiming at improving the situation of persons with disability in the 10 coming years. The Government has also incorporated disability components in the interim plan 1981-1983. In Italy, the National Health Plan for 1981-1983 considers the problem of disabled persons as a priority. In Nigeria, a short-term plan of action for 1981 was worked out and preparatory work for a national long-term plan of action has started. In this plan particular attention will be given to an expanded programme of immunization for which a monitoring unit has been appointed by the national committee.

9. In Israel, Peru, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States and Zambia, 1982 has been proclaimed as the National Year of Disabled Persons, in order to ensure implementation of the programmes initiated in 1981.

10. In some countries the International Year of Disabled Persons coincided with the beginning of a new five-year plan and disability components have been included in the plans for development in the period 1981-1985. (Byelorussia, the Congo, Jordan, the Libyan Arab Jamahiyira, Madagascar, Malta, Papua New Guinea, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Yugoslavia.) In Swaziland, the United Nations Secretariat assisted in preparing a draft outline for a national programme on disability related matters. The outline was copied to all the relevant ministries to enable them to integrate aspects of disability in their proposals for the fourth development plan (1983-1988).

11. The Kuwait National Committee published a booklet entitled "Efforts of the State of Kuwait during IYDP 1981" (March 1982) which contains the Kuwait's Plan for IYDP and practical measures taken by governmental and non-governmental local bodies, in pursuance of the objectives of the year as well as the results of the activities of the various committees concerned with legislation, evaluation of services, physical adaptations, rehabilitation and employment, studies and research, recreational and cultural activities.

12. The Sweden IYDP National Commission published a report on IYDP 1981 in Sweden. According to the Commission's survey of activities in Sweden during IYDP, 174 of the 258 municipal councils and 18 of the 23 country councils implemented measures or arranged new or more extensive activities of various kinds during the year to

improve the situation of disabled persons. Eight per cent of the municipalities and all the country councils set up a working party on the disabled during IYDP. Over two thirds of the municipalities and almost all the country councils made special funds available in 1981 for measures to benefit disabled persons.

13. The Federal Interagency Committee for IYDP of the United States of America published a "Report to the President" which summarized the commitment and the achievements of the United States during IYDP.

14. The Canadian Organizing Committee for 1984 IYDP published a report entitled "Directions" to reflect on the success of the year and to provide some directions for those whose work continues beyond 1981. The report features 65 recommendations for action in several crucial subject areas.

15. The national programme of Hungary was guided by the slogan "Together-For One Another" implying the need to strengthen the responsibility and concern of smaller communities and of society at large and to promote an active involvement of disabled persons in the improvement of their situation. The National Committee of the Federal Republic of Nigeria published a report entitled "Activities Marking the IYDP 1981". The Philippines National Commission Concerning Disabled Persons published a book entitled "The Rehab Column" in which activities undertaken in the Philippines in connexion with the IYDP are reported. The Government of the United Kingdom has published its report on IYDP entitled "IYDP and After - The United Kingdom Response". The report is a record of what happened as a result of IYDP.

16. In several countries the objectives of the national plan are stated in detail - such as to improving employment conditions for disabled persons (India, Ireland, Japan, Pakistan, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Yugoslavia); the national plans of action are sometimes more specific, such as to encouraging employers to adapt work places to the needs of disabled employees (Australia, Belgium, Canada, Egypt, German Democratic Republic, Iraq, Italy, Portugal, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, USSR); educating employers and persons with disabilities through brochures, guidelines and information on job-design and modifications, job opportunities as well as on the potentials of disabled persons (India, Malawi, Singapore, United Kingdom); shortening the working hours for disabled persons (German Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, USSR); modifying the provisions for workers' compensation in case of industrial injuries and occupational diseases to enable disabled workers to receive sick pay equal to the full amount of their average earnings (Hungary); improving social conditions of disabled persons through increase in pensions and allowances and discouraging discriminatory practices within the social security system (Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Hungary, Ireland, Mongolia, United Kingdom); granting as a new social benefit persons suffering from locomotor disorders an allowance for gasoline (Hungary); providing free of charge severely disabled persons with artificial limbs, braces and wheelchairs (Republic of Korea, Jordan); considering the possibility of continuing payment of a normal salary to severely disabled civil servants after retirement (Oman); providing disabled persons and their companions with free local transportation (Belgium, Federal Republic of Germany, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Oman, Pakistan); proposing provisions so that persons hired to accompany a disabled worker may get financial aid (Italy);

offering some categories of disabled persons free transportation within the administrative district (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic); entitlement to a reduction in fares (Jordan). In other countries proposals have been made for the granting of bonuses on petrol for private cars owned by disabled persons (Portugal); studying the possibility of improving the transport system for the benefit of disabled persons (Zimbabwe); drawing up medium and long-term programmes oriented towards improving transport facilities for disabled persons; amending the highway code to the advantage of disabled persons; organizing national road traffic safety competition of children with defective hearing; remodeling buses for the convenience of disabled persons; giving priority and financial support to disabled persons in driving instructions and free servicing in car repair shops (Hungary); issuing free vouchers for inmates of institutes for physically disabled and designating special shops and restaurants for persons with disabilities with parking places reserved for them (Hungary); delivering a "Disabled Persons Card" to all disabled persons and their companions for free access to public transport and for other facilities (Tunisia); delivering "Bus passes" to disabled persons (Sri Lanka). In other countries efforts have been made for promoting rural settlements of disabled persons (Malawi, Swaziland, Tunisia); integrating disabled persons into agricultural handicraft co-operatives (Burundi, Ethiopia, Italy, Poland, Somalia, Tanzania, Viet Nam); giving technical and financial support to co-operatives dealing with disabled persons (Portugal); organizing sheltered workshops (Greece); in a few cases, emphasis was placed on rehabilitation of mentally disabled children in rural areas (Haiti), or on launching pilot projects for the training and integration of disabled persons into the labour market (Brazil, Madagascar, Philippines, Saint Lucia); developing self-employment schemes for or independent work for disabled persons (India, Italy, Sri Lanka); considering part-time employment for disabled persons (United Kingdom); equipping neo-natal services (Chile); emphasizing prevention of congenital abnormality and scientific and technical research (Jamaica, Spain); developing a nucleus of services for disabled children under age 14 (India); protecting children under one year of age (Nigeria); establishing clearing house of information (Pakistan); promoting independent living domiciliary support programmes for disabled persons (Australia); organizing combined treatment-job workshops at the boarding homes (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Yugoslavia); organizing national or international skill contests, exhibitions and seminars concerning the disabled persons (Japan, Nigeria, Singapore, Zimbabwe); conducting national workshops on community-based rehabilitation to facilitate full participation of the family and friends of the disabled persons in the rehabilitation process (Malawi, Nigeria, Norway, Sri Lanka); consolidating the national centre for artificial limbs and planning for the establishment of other provincial limb centres (Sudan).

17. In several national plans of action, particular consideration is given to the adaptation of the education system (schools, materials, personnel) to the needs of disabled children and to ways and means towards achieving better integration in kindergartens and primary schools (Denmark, India, Indonesia, Italy). In that respect, the objectives of the national plans are defined in precise forms such as giving transport facilities for disabled children (Belgium, Mongolia); issuing informative letters for teachers and schools (Greece, Iceland, Netherlands); upgrading teachers in special education (Botswana); conducting workshops and/or seminars on the new trends in special education (Ecuador, Paraguay) and on the primary care re-education for physically disabled (Mali); strengthening the Special



Education Programme (Puerto Rico); organizing nation-wide professional conferences for teachers for disabled children (Hungary); producing a White Paper on special education programmes analysing past and present situations of special education and future tasks (Republic of Korea).

18. It should be noted however that the tendency of creating special schools for disabled children still remains (Angola, Jordan, Malawi, Qatar, Vietnam, etc.), as well as the launching of specific projects for disabled persons (low vision project for blind persons in Singapore). In the Syrian Arab Republic special attention has been given to the establishment of institutes for the education of deaf, mute and blind persons.

19. In some countries, attention is also given to the adaptation of suitable dwellings for disabled persons through special legislation, financial grants, discount on rents, supplies of special equipment (Belgium, Canada, Dominicas, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Mongolia, Poland, Qatar, USSR). The Government of the Bahamas is planning to solicit foster parent homes for disabled children forced to live in institutions and the Greek National Committee published a guide on technical information on barriers in the home. In Hungary, the Ministry of Construction and Urban Development provided planning guidelines for central authorities county councils, and designing enterprises on the subject areas of "Architectural requirements of the transit of persons suffering from locomotor disorders" and "Town-planning directives in view of the requirements of disabled persons". In Kuwait 1 to 2 per cent of the surface areas of all parking lots shall be reserved for disabled persons.

#### B. Participation

20. In most countries, persons with disabilities have actively taken part in activities of the Year through their local, national, subregional and international organizations.

21. In West Africa for the first time a Federation of Associations of Disabled Persons from 15 countries was established. In Denmark, New Zealand, Singapore, the United States of America, the chairpersons of the National Committees were persons with disabilities. In Jamaica, the National Co-ordinator of the National Committee was a blind person who is an expert in physiotherapy and the Executive Secretary of IYDP was a paraplegic. In Singapore, one third of the member's Executive Committee were either disabled persons or parents of disabled persons. For the first time in the history of the United Nations, the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden) and the United Kingdom appointed disabled persons to deliver statements on behalf of their Governments in the General Assembly during its consideration of IYDP at its thirty-sixth session. A number of persons with disabilities represented their countries at IYDP regional seminars and at the world Symposium of Experts organized in connexion with the Year. During IYDP, Malawi recruited its first disabled lawyer; a famous blind Japanese violinist performed in the General Assembly Hall on the occasion of the thirty-third anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.



22. More than 400 disabled persons from all continents representing organizations of disabled people from more than fifty countries participated in the founding congress of Disabled Peoples' International (Singapore, 30 November to 4 December 1981), which was a remarkable event which might have long-lasting consequences. The Congress accepted a constitution, a declaration, a manifesto and an action plan. The action plan focuses on grass-roots development projects with special emphasis on social and economic development rather than on rehabilitation services. This organization is unique because of its multi-disability orientation and composition and because disabled persons themselves control all levels of its structure.

23. In several countries, participation of disabled persons into leisure, cultural, spiritual and sport activities have been promoted through the following:

(a) Integrated recreational activities (Algeria, Dominica, Nordic countries);

(b) Adopted rehabilitative holiday camps for disabled children (German Democratic Republic, Hungary);

(c) Improvement of physical facilities for disabled persons and promotion of touristic activities (Belgium). In Sweden 70 per cent of museums and over 50 per cent of the remaining institutions had taken steps to adapt their premises for disabled people. In Hungary, the National Office of Tourism invited touristic agencies to facilitate, so far as possible, the participation of disabled persons in tourism, by offering them allowances, physical amenities and appropriate programmes. The Society of Friends of Domestic and International Tourism set up its working group on tourism for persons with physical disabilities (Hungary).

(d) Establishing centres to produce closed captioning programming so as to increase the number of sub-titled films and television programmes for deaf persons (Canada, Italy, United States of America);

(e) Cultural events such as the Third International Interpretation Competition of Visually Impaired Musicians, the Seventh International Festival of Deaf-Mimes (Czechoslovakia), the Film Festival on Disabled Children (Milan, Italy), the International Rehabilitation Film (New York), the Four-Day Film Festival (Japan) and the International Documentary Film Week for Cinema and TV (German Democratic Republic);

(f) Popular fairs so as to reach the public largely unaffected by written material and statements (Ivory Coast);

(g) Mannequins' shows with clothes to suit persons with disabilities (Denmark);

(h) Theatrical and dance performances by groups of disabled actors (Belgium, Cuba, Guatemala, Iceland, Japan, Jordan, Netherlands, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand, Togo, United Kingdom, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Upper Volta);

(i) Orchestras of Blind Musicians (Mali, Senegal, Trinidad and Tobago, Zaire);

(j) Project of pilgrimage by disabled persons to holy places such as Mecca, Rome, Fex and Lourdes (Senegal); establishing the Religious Life of Disabled People Group (United Kingdom) and participation of Christian organizations through conferences, courses, holiday camps to the activities of the Year (Portugal, Zimbabwe);

(k) Organization of an international seminar on sport and the disabled (Austria) and international competition (Luxembourg), organization of the Whitbread-Round-the-World Race (WTWR) by the International Sailing Fund of the Disabled under the control of the International Sports Organizations for Disabled (ISOD); the First European Special Olympic Games (Belgium) and the first South American Special Olympics (Paraguay); during a meeting commemorating its Tenth Anniversary (Budapest, August 1980), Inter-sport Invalid, comprising Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland) discussed its sport programme for 1981-1985; National Special Olympics games or Sport Festivals (Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Cuba, Denmark, Egypt, France, Greece, Jordan, Morocco, Netherlands, Paraguay, Portugal, United Kingdom, United States of America; several other national committees included in their programmes of activities promotion of sports for disabled persons (training, equipment and opening of sports centres), (Bahrain, Cameroon, Guinea, Kuwait, Oman, Republic of Korea, Swaziland); sports, recreation and cultural centres for disabled persons were under study in Jordan as well as the project for a "Federation for the Sports of the Disabled", which has been registered since the beginning of 1982.

### C. Legislation

24. In addition to the countries mentioned in document A/36/471 (paras. 11-12), many other national committees have undertaken to examine current laws and to recommend new legislation aiming at discouraging discriminatory practices towards disabled persons (Algeria, Bahamas, Brazil, Cameroon, Congo, France, Fiji, Greece, Iceland, India, Italy, Iraq, Jamaica, Libyan Arab Jamshiriya, Nepal, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Sudan, Spain, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, United Kingdom, Yugoslavia, Venezuela). In Rwanda, legislation as regards disabled persons will be considered in its next five-year plan. In Belgium, Iraq, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Yugoslavia emphasis was placed on exemption of equipment and prosthetic devices from import taxation. In Syrian Arab Republic consideration was given to the exemption of wages and salaries earned by disabled persons from income tax. Disabled persons are also exempted from physical fitness requirements in Syrian Arab Republic. In Portugal, the National Committee has participated in legislative initiatives concerning the exemption of deaf persons from the payment of radio licenses. In Botswana and the Ivory Coast, the Governments have not enacted any legislation regarding employment of disabled persons; instead, the latter has followed a pragmatic approach which has proven to be successful, albeit on a modest scale. In Sri Lanka, the National Committee has proposed to the Government legislation which would earmark 2 per cent of available jobs for disabled persons. This, however, was rejected in view of the severe unemployment ratio in the country and the present economic restrictions. In the Netherlands a campaign

directly related to the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Mentally Handicapped (1971) was initiated. One conclusion reached was that legislation alone would not solve the problems facing the mentally disabled and that a change in the public attitude was necessary.

#### D. Statistics and research

25. In addition to countries mentioned in document A/36/471 (p. 11), several other national committees have undertaken research and studies on disability and have also given special attention to the problem of the statistical accounting of the disabled so as to formulate:

(a) General action-oriented proposals (Australia, Algeria, Bahamas, Benin, Congo, Greece, Indonesia, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Sudan, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Syria, Sweden, Philippines, Portugal, Tanzania, Tunisia, Trinidad and Tobago);

(b) Programme for prevention of disability or of early treatment (Colombia, Belgium, France, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, India, Jamaica, Norway, Spain, United Kingdom, United States of America). In Nigeria a mass campaign on prevention of accidents at home, on the road and in industry was launched under an inter-ministerial task force;

(c) Employment action programme for disabled persons (Byelorussian SSR, Bulgaria, German Democratic Republic, Iceland). According to surveys conducted in the United States of America on work capabilities of disabled individuals, disabled persons have demonstrated their ability to perform jobs as well as non-disabled persons;

(d) Rehabilitation and social integration measures for war-disabled persons (Angola, Ethiopia, Laos, Mozambique, Somalia, Viet Nam, Ukrainian SSR, Zimbabwe);

(e) Education programmes for disabled children (Brazil, Guinea, Jordan, Paraguay). In Syrian Arab Republic and Senegal, special surveys are being undertaken in relation to the establishment of institutes for the deaf;

(f) The Netherlands National Committee, in collaboration with Stanford Research Institute International (California, United States of America) and the Amsterdam Laboratory for Applied Psychology, is developing an automated National Information System that could provide direct local access to information through a central source. The proposed automated system may be a model for other nations and may lead to an international network for disabled people.

#### E. Assistance to developing countries

26. In addition to the countries listed in document A/36/471 (pp. 12-13), several national committees of the developed countries have expressed active solidarity with the disabled persons in developing countries. (Australia and German Democratic Republic).

27. Fund-raising activities have been organized in Belgium, Netherlands, New Zealand and Japan to finance projects in developing countries. In some developing countries fund-raising activities have been organized for collecting money for the implementation of the Plan of Action of the Year (Jamaica, Kenya, Jordan, Fiji, Sudan). National Trust Funds for IYDP have been established in Guinea, Nepal, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Sudan, Uganda, Zimbabwe.

28. Many other National Committees prepared projects to be submitted to donor countries and international organizations <sup>2/</sup> (Congo, Cameroon, Benin, Angola, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, Rwanda, Egypt, Kenya, Ethiopia, Somalia, Tunisia, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Peru, Ecuador, Sri Lanka, Senegal, Viet Nam). China has developed international exchange on disability matters with many countries and organizations.

29. The National Commission of Sweden produced a list of foundations and funds offering support for projects connected with the IYDP. The Swedish National Commission for IYDP in co-operation with SIDA, also organized "Open House" Conferences at different places in Sweden during March/April 1982 in order to sum up what has been done during IYDP at the international level and to try to maintain the interest at local levels for the questions related to disabled persons mainly in developing countries.

30. The Brazilian National Commission published a list of 34 Brazilian private and public institutions and 10 universities as well as of 36 experts which may offer international co-operation to developing countries in the areas of prevention and rehabilitation. The Brazilian National Commission also published a list of Brazilian institutions which would like to receive co-operation from developed countries and in which areas this co-operation is desired. Disabled Peoples' International has initiated the organization of five training seminars to be held in 1982 and 1983 in Costa Rica and Jamaica (for the Latin American and Caribbean region), in Senegal and Zimbabwe (for the African region), in Thailand for Asia and the Pacific. These seminars will provide the opportunity for disabled persons in developing countries to acquire expertise and knowledge in organizational development, project development and better understanding of the self-help movement. One hundred-eighty people from 90 different countries will be trained in seminars and 20 organizations will benefit from these seminars.

#### F. Future of the national committees

31. In paragraph 3 of resolution 36/77, the General Assembly urged Member States to consider maintaining, when appropriate, the national committees or similar bodies established for the Year. A number of Member States, countries and territories have taken practical measures to secure the organizational structures for the follow-up to the IYDP.

32. In some countries, the terms of office of the national committees have been extended; Bahamas, Cyprus, Yugoslavia (6 months), Sweden (8 months), the Netherlands (9 months), Israel, Italy, Peru, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Zambia (1 year), Brazil (10 years), Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Jordan, Swaziland, (unspecified period of time).

33. Several Committees have been developed into permanent bodies to assume over-all functions in disability-related matters: Belgium, Benin, Burundi, Congo, Chile, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mali, Philippines, Tunisia, United Republic of Cameroon, Yemen.

34. In the reports on the observance of the year, the Bahamas, Colombia, Denmark, Greece, Fiji, Guatemala, Kuwait, Switzerland stated their intention to establish or maintain permanent committees or similar bodies to follow-up the Year.

35. In some cases, the national committees have closed their offices and their activities have been transferred to legal entities performing as successors in the various matters: Belgium, Botswana, Denmark, Germany, Federal Republic of, France, Japan, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritius, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Rwanda, San Marino, Seychelles, Spain, Sudan, United States of America, Zimbabwe.

36. In Canada, a Secretary of State has been asked to co-ordinate the implementation of the 130 recommendations contained in the "Obstacles Report" tabled by the Special Parliamentary Committee on the Disabled and the Handicapped.

37. In Cuba, the national committee is undertaking complementary action after the conclusion of IYDP, and at the same time, carrying on activities in connexion with the World Assembly on Aging.

38. In the reports on the observance of the year of Byelorussian SSR, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia and the USSR, information is given on the co-ordinating bodies in the field of rehabilitation and on the comprehensive social policy programmes of these Governments which extends far beyond the span and aims of the Year 1981.

39. In China, a Liaison Department of the State is following up IYDP.

40. Appropriate bodies have been established in more than 82 countries to deal with matters relating to disabled persons.

41. In Norway, the follow-up work will be secured by the permanent bodies, such as the Council for the Disabled and the League of Handicap Organization.

42. In Denmark, further tasks will be attended to by the Ministry of Social Affairs.

43. In the United Kingdom, the views were being gathered of a wide range of organizations and individuals as to the need or desirability to create a body to co-ordinate existing organizations and projects relating to disability. A new organization, the Snowdon Council, has been established, to ensure that the work, started in 1981, continues, such as the work of the groups set up in the year and to be continued by the organizations that have taken over.

44. In the Federal Republic of Germany, the recommendations worked out by the Committee will be realized by the Federation, the Lands and the Communities in the first place.

45. To ensure the continuation of the work started in 1981, three Advisory Councils have been established in Belgium: (a) the National High Council for Disabled People; (b) the Advisory Community Council for Disabled People of the French Speaking Community; and (c) the Flemish High Council for Disabled People.
46. In France, the National Advisory Committee of Disabled Persons and the various special committees with the Departments will continue to pursue the aims of the Year. In different districts, regional IYDP committees will remain in existence.
47. In the Netherlands, the organizations of and for disabled people have taken over the work of the National Committee which has legally stopped its work on 1 September 1982.
48. The Irish Government has not taken a decision regarding the continuation of the Irish National Committee.
49. Following the organization of a national workshop in Islamabad (Pakistan) a recommendation was made concerning the establishing of a National Council on Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation and the organization of better co-ordinating machineries among agencies, departments and organizations concerned.
50. In Burundi, a national secretariat for disability-related matters has been established.
51. In Swaziland, a National Council on Disability-related matters has been recommended.
52. The National Committee of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya developed into a permanent committee called "Committee for the Welfare of the Disabled".
53. The National Committee of the United Republic of Cameroon has become a technical committee called "Comité National de Liaison Pour la Readaptation des Personnes Handicapées" (National Liaison Committee for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled Persons).
54. In the United States of America, a new non-governmental organization, the National Office on Disability, was created to encourage and support the continuing momentum of IYDP in the United States of America.
55. In Japan, the Government decided to set up a "Headquarters for the Promotion of Measures for Disabled Persons" to replace the "Government Headquarters for IYDP" which was disbanded in March 1982. Its task is to develop a comprehensive policy for the welfare of disabled people which in the past had been pursued separately by each Ministry concerned.
56. In Spain, the "Royal Foundation for Education and Assistance to the Disabled", acting as a national committee, functions as a permanent body.
57. In Fiji, the Government was considering the question of a statutory body to be established to help streamline efforts by the various societies that cater for the

disabled and co-ordinate national rehabilitation services for the disabled. When established, the National Body will assume over-all function of co-ordinating activities.

58. In the Philippines, the National Commission Concerning Disabled Persons will remain the lead-agency for the implementation of the Plan of Action.

59. In Madagascar the "Comité National Permanent de la Population" (CNPP), the Population National Permanent Committee, was designated as IYDP Focal Point.

60. In Jordan, an Executive Bureau of some members of the IYDP National Committee will continue to plan and monitor progress in Jordan.

61. In the Congo, a Permanent Secretariat is responsible for monitoring and implementing the Committee's recommendations.

62. In Switzerland, a proposal concerning the establishment of a "Disabled Persons' Federal Commission" (Commission Fédérale pour les questions relatives aux handicapés) similar to the Youth and Women Federal Commissions was submitted to the "Conseil fédéral" (Swiss Government). The majority of the members of this Commission should consist of disabled persons.

63. In Colombia, the Government intended to create a National Rehabilitation System to co-ordinate and promote measures on behalf of disabled persons. When this system is established, a National Commission and regional commissions will be established.

64. In Guatemala, the National Commission or a similar body, acting as consultative body with an Executive Bureau was expected to follow-up the Year.

65. In Pakistan, a National Task Force and Provincial Task Forces for the Decade have been formed.

66. In the Yemen, the committee formulated the status of the National Association for the Rehabilitation and Training of the Disabled, which was subsequently approved by both the Council of Ministers and the People's Assembly.

67. The Botswana National Council for the Handicapped will follow-up the IYDP activities.

68. In Poland, a decision was taken to appoint the Social Committee for Disabled Persons at the All-Poland Committee of the National Unity Front to monitor activities related to the implementation of the IYDP follow-up activities.

69. In Portugal, the National Secretariat for Rehabilitation (NSR) ensured the presidencies of the National Committee and of the Executive Committee during IYDP. Being a Government department within the Prime Minister's Department, the National Secretariat for Rehabilitation constitutes the Government instrument towards the implementation of a long-term plan for the decade.



70. In Zimbabwe, the IYDF sub-committees of the National Association of Societies for the Care of the Handicapped (NASCOH) have been disbanded but the various members will be assisting NASCOH in future plans for the disabled persons.

71. In Chile, the National Rehabilitation Commission co-ordinates all public and private activities in the field of rehabilitation. It is a technical commission comprising representatives of ministries and organizations concerned with rehabilitation.

72. The Government of the Seychelles is planning to set up a machinery for follow-up assessments and permanent registration of the disabled after IYDF. In the Republic of Korea, a Rehabilitation Division has been established, which is responsible for carrying out all IYDF related activities, under the Bureau of Social Welfare in the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs. In Hungary, a Professional Board has been set up within the Centre for Social Institutes to co-ordinate follow-up activities to IYDF under the direction of the Minister of Health.

#### IV. ACTIVITIES AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL

73. Activities at the regional level have been based mostly on the follow-up of the IYDF regional seminars held during 1980/81 and reported in document A/36/471 (pp. 13-19).

##### A. Asia and the Pacific

74. The implementation of the recommendations of the IYDF regional seminar for southern Asia and the Pacific is at present undertaken by a number of countries in the region, taking into consideration also the recommendations contained in the Vienna Affirmative Action Plan (IYDF/SBSP/L.2/Res.1) adopted by the IYDF World Symposium held at Vienna in October 1981.

75. In the Philippines, a Regional Technical Co-operation Centre has been considered. In New Zealand, special attention is being given to the promotion of technical co-operation with other countries of the Pacific region. Experts on disability from seven countries of Asia and the Pacific held a seminar on training in rehabilitation medicine at the Philippines International Convention Centre. The Seminar stressed the need to develop technology and research concerning the production of simple and inexpensive aids and equipment using locally available materials. The Seminar also proposed the establishment of an Equipment Bank of aids and equipment that are available for export from each country. The Eighth Committee Meeting of the Asia Pacific Region of Rehabilitation International was held in August 1981 at Macau. The Committee discussed the programmes of exchange of information, technical expertise and data. It was proposed to set up a regional network or committee charged with the task of examining appropriate solutions.

## B. Africa

76. As a follow-up to the IYDP, African Regional Technical Meeting and Regional Seminar held at Addis Ababa from 1 to 7 October 1980, numerous activities took place both at the national and regional levels. There are also a number of initiatives at subregional levels and a project to establish an African Regional Rehabilitation Training and Research Institute is being prepared by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in collaboration with the International Labour Organisation (ILO). The Institute is to promote and develop regional and subregional staff training and research programmes by pooling resources in Africa. In its resolution OM/Res.834/XXVII, the OAU Council of Ministers at its thirty-sixth session called for the establishment of the Institute, and the project was endorsed by the eighteenth session of the Assembly of the African Heads of States and Governments (Nairobi, June 1981) in resolution OM/Res.875/XXXVII.

77. The General Secretariat of OAU, in collaboration with ILO, presented a draft document on the subject at the UNDP inter-Agency Conference in Addis Ababa in April 1981, which was considering the new projects for funding in the new UNDP 1982-1985 planning cycle. Some countries and organizations have already considered favourably the possibility to contribute to the project by way of experts and funds.

78. At another subregional level, a conference on social integration of disabled persons was organized in Kigali (Rwanda, December 1981) by the French-speaking countries of Central Africa.

79. A subregional seminar for 11 African countries (South and East) was conducted in Blantyre (Malawi, October 1981), in order to review, in connexion with IYDP, basic concepts and ideas of vocational rehabilitation and resettlement of the disabled persons.

80. In order to promote subregional co-operation in the field of prevention and rehabilitation, a workshop was to be organized in Mbabane (Swaziland, September 1982), as a preparation for the setting up of a Permanent Office to plan and co-ordinate disability matters in the subregion.

81. In Senegal, a project concerning the establishment of a Pan-African Deaf Institute, to cover 19 West African Francophone countries, has been initiated.

82. In Togo, a Federation of 15 Associations for the Welfare of Disabled Persons has been established for the West Africa subregion.

## C. Latin America

83. The Organization of American States (OAS) organized or sponsored a series of seminars on the new trends on special education (Paraguay). The First Sub-Latin American Special Olympic Games were organized in Paraguay.

84. At the subregional level, in collaboration with the United Nations Secretariat, a symposium was organized in Kingston (Jamaica, 1982) to be followed by the

establishment of a Technical Co-operation Centre to cover the 15 Caribbean countries.

85. At its sixth congress held in Nassau, Bahamas, in August 1980, the Caribbean Association on Mental Retardation (CAMR) adopted two main guidelines for the programme of the Association through 1982: (1) to continue with the development of orientation programmes directed to change public attitudes towards disabled persons and, (2), to continue with the involvement of parents.

86. The CAMR took the opportunity on the occasion of the celebration of IYDP to strengthen its training programme and to evaluate the work accomplished in the Caribbean. During IYDP, emphasis was placed on public education that is so necessary in the changing of attitudes.

87. The Seventh Congress of CAMR (Trinidad and Tobago) was to be held under the theme "A Decade of Sharing - Where to Now?"

#### D. Western Asia

88. During an Arab Regional Conference called by the Kuwait National Committee for IYDP (1-5 April 1981), organized with the technical co-operation of ECMA, a draft of the proposed Arab Declaration of Plan of Action concerning the Disabled was discussed. The Conference urged the State of Kuwait to refer the Arab Plan of Action to the Council of Arab Ministers of Social Affairs so that the latter could include it on the agenda of its forthcoming session, with a view to taking the necessary steps for its implementation. The Follow-up Office of Arab Ministers of Social Affairs in the Arab States of the Gulf have been advised of the Declaration. The Plan provides basis for continuing the work of the International Year on the regional level. The Plan urges Arab States to incorporate in their socio-economic development plans objective and prevention targeted towards the disabled, with emphasis upon the sources of disablement, especially at poverty-stricken rural and Bedouin environments and at slums of cities and urban areas of low living standards. It was also agreed to establish a General Arab Federation for bodies concerned with disability. The Arab countries were also urged to view IYDP as a starting point for purposeful action through the setting up of a permanent office to follow-up the implementation of the Conference's resolutions and the Arab Plan of Action concerning the Disabled. It was decided that a Conference would be held once every two years in one of the Arab States to study the questions concerning the disabled and evaluate the efforts made in their favour.

89. In the Syrian Arab Republic, action has been continued on the establishment of a regional institute for the training of teachers for the deaf, in collaboration with the Arab Union of Organizations for the Care of the Deaf.

#### E. Europe

90. A number of the Member States in Europe have adopted the IYDP follow-up measures which are in accordance with the recommendations of the European Regional

Seminar on International Year of Disabled Persons, held at Siilinjärvi (Finland) from 27 May to 2 June 1981 (see also A/36/471, p. 18).

91. Thus, relevant recommendations of the United Nations European Regional Seminar on the IYDP were prepared by ECE in the form of a secretariat note for the Research Colloquium "The Built Environment and the Handicapped" held from 30 November to 2 December 1981 in Gothenburg, Sweden. 3/ The ECE note was published and submitted as introductory document to the Seminar's proceedings.

92. As a contribution to IYDP, the Commission of the European Community sponsored a conference on the preparation of handicapped children and young people for adult life (Netherlands, October 1981), aiming at identifying and defining policy orientations for further European co-operation in this field. On 21 December 1981, the Council of Ministers of the European Communities adopted a resolution concerning the social integration of disabled persons. This resolution constitutes the synthesis of the policy to be followed towards disabled persons by the 10 member countries of the Community, through 1986.

93. In July 1981, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe adopted a recommendation to the committee of Ministers (recommendation 925/1981, see document 4754, report of the Committee on Social and Health Questions), concerning the situation of disabled persons in Europe. The recommendation calls for a survey of the implementation by Council of Europe of resolutions and recommendations concerning protection and assistance for disabled persons and for the establishing of a genuine European Rehabilitation Programme. In the recommendation it is also envisaged to institute a special prize of the Council of Europe to be awarded annually by the Parliamentary Assembly, to the local European collectivities which contributed most to the welfare of disabled persons and their involvement in the social life of the community.

94. The Nordic Committee on Disability, which acts as an advisory body to the Nordic Council for Ministers (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden) published a report entitled "Report on the Development of a Nordic Information System on Technical Aids for the Disabled", August 1981. The system was to be tested and evaluated during 1982. In 1981, a joint Nordic training of different categories of personnel for deaf and blind persons was started.

## V. ACTIVITIES AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

### A. Activities of the United Nations system

#### 1. United Nations

95. The main activities undertaken by the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs relating to the International Year of Disabled Persons include, inter alia:

(a) Finalization of the World Programme of Action covering Disabled Persons which was considered by the Advisory Committee at its fourth session;

(b) Organization of an action-oriented IYDP World Symposium of Experts on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries and Technical Assistance in the Field of Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation which was held, with assistance of the Government of Austria, from 12 to 23 October 1981, at Vienna, and was attended by 51 experts from all regions of the world who were invited in their individual capacity, and 126 observers representing 41 Member States as well as a number of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. The Symposium considered the following subjects: priorities of the developing countries' strategies for rural areas, equipment and technical aids, technical co-operation and the role of the United Nations. The Symposium adopted the "Vienna Affirmative Action Plan". This Action Plan (IYDP/SYMP/L.2/Rev.1) has made available to the participants of the fourth session of the IYDP Advisory Committee;

(c) Preparation of publications and studies, including works on the full participation of disabled persons in socio-economic life and access to United Nations buildings, documents and information for persons with sensorial disabilities (to be completed in 1982) manual on architectural barriers prepared jointly with the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements and the Swedish International Development Authority. This manual, which contains practical guidelines for planning and architects in developing countries, will be completed in 1982. Its concrete utilization will be examined at a meeting which is being planned by professionals in East Africa dealing with architectural barriers;

(d) Substantive inputs in various meetings, seminars, workshops and conferences;

(e) Liaison with national committees, including the preparation of news periodicals and the undertaking of advisory missions to help promote the organization or strengthening of National Committees and assist in the formulation of national programmes for the follow-up to IYDP and in the identification of elements for projects likely to be financed through the IYDP Trust Fund.

96. The Trust Fund for the International Year of Disabled Persons, established under General Assembly resolution 32/133, is designed to provide extrabudgetary resources to implement the IYDP objectives. The Fund has to date received contributions and pledges from the following Member States:

Contributions to the Trust Fund of the International Year  
 for Disabled Persons

(in United States dollars)

	Contributions received			Total	Pledges	
	1978-1979	1980-1981	1981-1982		1980-81	1982-83
Australia	-	-	55,810	55,810	-	-
Austria	-	22,479	-	22,479	-	-
Belgium	-	25,000	7,843	32,843	-	-
United Republic of Cameroon	-	851	-	851	-	-
Canada	-	82,900	-	82,900	-	-
Chile	-	5,000	-	5,000	-	-
Cyprus	-	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
Ethiopia	5,000	-	-	5,000	-	-
Germany, Federal Republic of	-	267,775	-	267,775	-	-
India	-	10,063	-	10,063	-	-
Japan	-	200,000	-	200,000	-	-
Kuwait	-	7,367	-	7,367	-	-
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	100,000	250,000	-	350,000	-	-
Nigeria	-	-	-	-	340,000	-
Malta	-	250	-	250	-	-
Oman	-	5,000	5,000	10,000	-	-
Pakistan	-	10,000	-	10,000	-	-
Philippines	-	5,000	-	5,000	-	-
Portugal	-	1,000	-	1,000	-	-
Qatar	-	4,000	-	4,000	-	-
Saudi Arabia	-	-	150,000	150,000	-	-
Senegal	-	-	-	-	-	2,000
Sweden	10,000	-	-	10,000	-	-
Togo	-	104	-	104	-	-
Japanese Fans of Takayama	-	45,882	-	45,882	-	-
United Association of Japan	-	-	129,718	129,718	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>115,000</u></b>	<b><u>942,671</u></b>	<b><u>349,371</u></b>	<b><u>1,407,042</u></b>	<b><u>340,000</u></b>	<b><u>2,000</u></b>

97. In addition to the voluntary contributions to the IYDP Trust Fund listed under paragraph 96 above, the Government of Norway contributed \$249,875 to a special-purpose trust fund established by the Secretary-General for the purpose of providing substantive and administrative support for the IYDP follow-up.

98. Following the terms of reference established for the Trust Fund, six promotional projects of international scope and two promotional projects of national scope were financed from the IYDP Trust Fund during 1981-1982.

99. Between 1 January 1980 and 31 March 1982, 110 requests for assistance have been received, excluding requests from individuals. Sixty-nine of these requests were from the Governments of 62 countries, 27 were from national level non-governmental organizations and 14 were from international non-governmental organizations. These requests have been carefully reviewed and the requesting parties have been informed about the conformity of their requests with the terms of reference of the Trust Fund.

100. After the review, a list of priority projects at inter-regional, regional, subregional and national levels has been established. Priority areas have been defined, in accordance with the guidelines provided by the General Assembly and the Advisory Committee.

101. In addition, two fund-raising projects were launched in connection with IYDP: (a) the UN/UNICEF Gold and Silver Coin Project in collaboration with the United Kingdom Royal Mint, up to 24 countries are expected to participate in the coin programme which is one of the most important numismatic projects ever undertaken for coin collectors; (b) the production of the Album of Long Play Phonogram record and magnetic cassette in collaboration with the Phonogram International (Phillips of the Netherlands). Revenues from these two projects are expected to flow into the IYDP Trust Fund in 1982/83.

102. Nippon Phonogram Co. Ltd. also published a long play record. A part of the proceeds from the sale of the record will be contributed to the welfare of disabled persons through the United Nations.

103. Contacts have been maintained with the Yugoslav Government as regards the offer of this Government (see A/36/471) to contribute the exchange of disability related technical information and transfer of technology and know-how to developing countries by establishing a Technical Co-operation Support Service for the Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons at the Institute for Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons in Ljubljana, Yugoslavia.

104. As regards the question of access to buildings and facilities for the disabled, since the last reporting period, the following modifications have been made at United Nations Headquarters: seven toilet compartments were remodelled or constructed in accordance with the American Standards Institute recommended standards for the physically disabled. A drinking foundation has been installed in the visitors area. Plans for a 80 foot ramp at the Visitors Entrance have been completed and the ramp should be built in the near future.

105. Public information activities undertaken during the year are summarized in the Secretary-General report A/36/471 (pp. 21-22). In addition, the Department of Economic and Social Information organized an International Seminar last June on the theme of the portrayal of disabled people by and in the media which drew participants from different regions of the world. This project was also designed



to meet an often requested need for guidelines for media representatives in dealing with subjects related to disability or disabled persons.

106. The seminar was considered most successful and adopted not only suggested guidelines for the media but also recommendations to organizations of and for disabled persons on the planning of their communications efforts. The seminar also adopted recommendations addressed to the United Nations system. The results of the seminar will be of permanent benefit to the media and disabled persons, since the adopted guidelines will be printed in a booklet translated into different languages and distributed throughout the world.

107. An accessibility Guide to the United Nations Headquarters in New York has been produced to be used by people with physical disabilities who visit the Headquarters. A similar guide has been put out in Geneva.

108. The Department of Economic and Social Information will also issue three newsletters this year: one has already been issued; the second was issued following the Advisory Committee and a final issue will be out towards the end of the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly.

109. A booklet will also be issued at the end of 1982 which will summarize the progress made towards the goal of IYDP at the national, regional and international levels.

110. The General Assembly had requested the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies and organizations to prepare concrete and co-ordinated plans for IYDP for submission to the Advisory Committee for IYDP at its 1980 session. In this regard, a number of formal and informal interagency meetings were organized during 1979-1981 on matters relating to IYDP.

111. During 1982, two interagency meetings were held within the framework of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) for the purpose of holding consultations on the draft World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and on interagency co-operation for the follow-up to the International Year of Disabled Persons.

112. In 1982, ACC decided to refer the question of employment of disabled persons in the organizations of the United Nations system to the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (CCAQ (PER)). CCAQ (PER) at its thirty-seventh session, in June 1982, decided to explore the question further and requested its secretariat, with the assistance of the ILO, WHO and medical advisers of organizations of the United Nations system as required, to conduct a study for consideration by CCAQ (PER) at its next session.

113. During the eighteenth session of the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECA) in 1981, States members were urged to elaborate and implement long-term programmes of action concerning disability. The Secretary-General was requested to strengthen the work of the Commission in the field of the prevention of disability and the training of disabled persons within the framework of its social development programme and within the context of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade.

114. During the nineteenth period of sessions of the Economic Commission for Latin America "Regional Programme of Action to Speed up the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean in the context of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade" was approved for submission to the Economic and Social Council.

115. The twenty-ninth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (February, 1981) adopted a long-term policy measure and a five-year programme of action for drug control. Since 1981, the Division of Narcotic Drugs has been assisting Government authorities in developing low-cost programmes which will focus on greater active participation of addicted persons and the more direct involvement of families, friends and other interested community members.

116. The Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO) has prepared a publication entitled "Disasters and the Disabled". UNDRO's major contribution to IYDP has been to undertake a comparative research project in four developing countries in order to determine the needs of the disabled as a result of disasters which occurred in the period 1976-1980.

117. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements completed an audio-visual presentation to accompany a manual on physical barriers referred to above. The booklet and slide presentation are to be made available during 1982.

118. UNICEF's involvement in the Year includes a fund-raising project (see A/36/471, p. 24) in collaboration with the United Nations Secretariat and the United Kingdom mint facilities. During IYDP, which is for UNICEF a follow-up to the International Year of the Child (IYC), emphasis was placed on prevention with a world-wide expansion of programmes of immunization to save 5 million children a year from preventable disabilities and measures for early detection and treatment of impairments as well as for assisting families and communities to prevent disability.

119. In addition, UNICEF is continuing its information campaigns and was preparing a film on the prevention of blindness and rehabilitation of blind children.

120. In order to help promote the objectives of the Year, the Administrator of UNDP appointed a senior officer as special UNDP co-ordinator for IYDP. The Bureau for Programme Policy and Evaluation was assigned with the responsibility to promote, co-ordinate and monitor UNDP's involvement in the Year. All regional bureaux and special units at Headquarters designated their IYDP focal points. The UNDP Inter-Bureau Consultative Group for IYDP related activities, developed a number of recommendations for meaningful participation in IYDP. In addition to the considerable support provided by UNDP in the preparation and organization of the IYDP World Symposium of Experts, UNDP Resident Representatives have been assisting the Governments to identify, appraise and review the projects to be submitted to the Centre for Social Development of Human Affairs for financing by the IYDP Trust Fund.

121. UNHCR decided to establish a Trust Fund which is open to other donations for disabled refugees with the 1 million Swedish Krone (about \$US 180,000) awarded with the Nobel Prize as the basic contribution. UNHCR is continuing its assistance for

the resettlement of disabled refugees especially in countries which have subscribed to the "Ten or More Plan", which is a commitment to accept 10 or more refugees a year for resettlement. As part of the IYDP follow-up, detailed guidelines for identification, assessment of needs of disabled refugees and formulation of projects have been developed during 1982.

## 2. Specialized agencies

122. Activities undertaken by the Specialized Agencies in connection with IYDP are reported in document A/36/471, pages 25-28.

123. The report of the Director General to the 1981 International Labour Conference dealt with "Vocational Rehabilitation of the Disabled - Full Participation and Equality".

124. In accordance with the decision taken in November 1980 (see A/36/471, p. 25, para. 106) to place on the agenda of the 1982 International Labour Conference the question of vocational rehabilitation, the Office prepared and disseminated to all member countries a report on law and practice concerning vocational rehabilitation. The 1982 ILO Conference deliberated on a new international instrument to become in 1983 a supplement to ILO recommendation No. 99 on vocational rehabilitation of disabled persons.

125. Sixty issues of the special ILO documentation service on rehabilitation of the blind (BLINDOC) were published in ink-print and Braille.

126. FAO stressed the need to give special consideration in the world programme to the problems of disabled persons living in rural areas who represent the majority of disabled persons in the world. FAO is co-operating with WHO, UNDP and the World Bank in the control of river blindness in the Volta Basin. The FAO Committee for Assistance and Information to the Handicapped undertook action to improve the situation of disabled persons in FAO and to help its staff members who have disabled children. Projects concerning the strengthening of nutrition education and dissemination programmes in selected countries have been worked out by FAO.

127. The one hundred fourteenth session (May 1982) of the UNESCO Executive Board analysed UNESCO's activities related to IYDP and outlined possible UNESCO follow-up action (see document 114 EX/INF.3 of 5 April 1982 entitled "Comprehensive Review of UNESCO's Contribution to the International Year of Disabled Persons" (1981). UNESCO's action has been co-ordinated by an inter-sectoral task group whose joint efforts have culminated in the realization of the World Conference on Actions and Strategies for Education, Prevention and Integration (Torremolinos, Spain, November 1981). One of the major outcomes of this Conference was the adoption of the Sundberg Declaration, named in memory of Nils-Ivar Sundberg who was in charge of the UNESCO Programme for Special Education from 1968 to November 1981 and whose dedication has been a source of inspiration both to individuals and institutions dealing with special education worldwide. The Sundberg Declaration was presented to the United Nations General Assembly in December 1981. This Declaration and the final report of the Conference are useful instruments in guiding national and

international action in the field of disability for the next decade and are available in English, French and Spanish.

128. For promotion during IYDF, the UNESCO Co-Action programme accepted 22 projects from 19 Member States for funding. By the end of 1981, 52 States had submitted special education-related projects for funding by the organization representing a total amount of \$1,552,164.

129. Some other features of UNESCO's activities include, among others, the following:

(a) Research work on elaboration of social indicators on disabled persons; research work on the prevention of mental disabilities (in collaboration with the International Brain Research Organization);

(b) Publication of "Working in Braille" which deals with the progress made in this field since 1953;

(c) Updating and publishing of "World Braille Usage";

(d) Symposium on how to eliminate problems that may arise from the application of copyright to materials for the disabled person;

(e) Seminar on how children's literature can influence attitudes, in collaboration with the Bologna Children's Book Fair (March 1981);

(f) Publication in both Braille and ink-print of the Red Thread Riddles, a fund book for children aged 6 to 10;

(g) A regional seminar on special education, organized in Nairobi, Kenya from 20-31 July 1981;

(h) A Teacher Training Seminar for Visually Handicapped Children, which was held in Malawi from 2-20 November 1981;

(i) Meeting of Experts on the integration of Severely and Multiple Handicapped Persons into Ordinary and Vocational Education, Heidelberg, Federal Republic of Germany;

(j) National workshop and seminar on Artistic Creativity of the Deaf, New Delhi, India, 1-21 December 1981;

(k) UNESCO International Symposium on Services for Young Handicapped Children, Their Parents and Families, Washington, D. C., United States of America, 7-11 December 1981.

130. UNESCO's Regional Offices launched operations designed to create greater awareness of the issues relating to disability.

131. Several activities are planned for the years ahead with a view to facilitating the access of disabled persons to books and copyright works and the possibility of producing Braille books in Africa.

132. The Secretary-General of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has established a study group to review the standard international signs to facilitate passengers using airports. This group is in the process of developing appropriate signs for the purpose of assisting disabled persons in airport terminal buildings.

133. In addition to the activities of the World Health Organization reported in document A/36/471 (pp. 27-28), WHO launched an extensive immunization programme the objective of which is to vaccinate all children, through 1990, against the six most handicapping diseases. Other activities include a Special Research and Training Programme in the field of tropical diseases, a programme of prevention of accidents and the continuation of the programme of control of river blindness in the Volta Basin.

134. WHO organized, in June 1982, an inter-regional meeting on the promotion of the community concept of rehabilitation aiming at reaching the majority of population concerned.

135. To promote the implementation of this approach, the revised version of the manual entitled "Training the Disabled in the Community" has been distributed to all WHO Regional Offices, for trial and evaluation, including the translation and adaptation to local situations. The manual is now being tested in 10 developing countries.

136. The Universal Postal Union (UPU) has sent a circular to the postal administrations of the States members of UPU regarding the issue, on the occasion of IYDP, of special commemorative stamps in several face values.

#### 5. Activities of other intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations system

137. As a contribution to IYDP, the thirty-third ordinary session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (October 1981) adopted a Recommendation calling for a reappraisal of all its past activities with a view to ascertaining to what extent Council of Europe recommendations concerning rehabilitation have been implemented in the Member States. The Council decided to institute a special Council of Europe Prize, awarded annually by the Parliamentary Assembly to the European local authority, association, institution, corporate body or individual which contributed most to the welfare and in the involvement of disabled persons in the social life of the community concerned.

138. In December 1981, the Council of the European Community adopted a resolution on social integration of disabled persons over a five-year period. The EEC plan is to set up a network of locally based development actions, which will act as demonstration models for the whole community, on how to tackle social integration for all disabled persons in a given district. The Commission of the European Community will submit a progress report to the Council at the end of 1984 and a final evaluation report in 1986.

139. Assistance of the Commonwealth Foundation has allowed resource persons from commonwealth countries to attend a series of activities organized in Asia, Africa and in the Caribbean region in connexion with IYDP.
140. The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) requested its technical committees to devote special attention to the needs of disabled persons.
141. At its 8th meeting held during the twentieth General Assembly of the International Social Security Association (ISSA) in Manila, the study group on rehabilitation decided to carry out a study on "Special measures provided by social security institutions to permit and facilitate the independent living of disabled persons". The study was included in the ISSA programme of activities for the period 1981-1983.
142. The Nordic Committee on Disability (NCD) published, in 1982, a report on the development of a Nordic Information System on Technical Aids. The system which was developed was to be tested and evaluated in 1982. The Committee established a Nordic working group for the deaf and blind persons and a similar group for the mentally disabled. A joint Nordic Training of different categories of personnel for the deaf and blind persons started in 1981.
143. During the one hundred and twenty-eighth session of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), a resolution on the association of IPU with the work of the United Nations during IYDP was adopted. Following this resolution, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for IYDP sent letters to all the Presidents of the National Committees of IYDP inviting them to establish contacts with the National Groups of the Inter-Parliamentary Union so as to facilitate exchange of information on relevant problems, consulting on specific proposals suitable for legislative action, and for ensuring that the momentum generated during IYDP is maintained in the years to come. A similar letter was sent to all Presidents of the IPU National Groups by the Secretary-General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.
144. The ninth Conference of the Mayors of the World's Major Cities was held in Milan (April 1981) under the theme "The disabled persons in the City".
145. The Organization of American States (OAS) organized a "Festival Especial de Arte y simposio Interamericano" in order to promote co-operation among American countries.

#### C. Activities of international non-governmental organizations

146. During the Year, there has been an active exchange of information between the United Nations and the non-governmental organizations of and for disabled persons. The non-governmental organizations interested in IYDP have had several meetings with the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs and have fully participated in all IYDP related events at the international, regional and national levels. A non-governmental organization ad hoc committee has been established in Vienna to work closely with the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs.

147. During its twenty-eighth annual meeting at the Vienna International Centre, held in December 1981, the Council of World Organizations Interested in the Handicapped (CWOIH) adopted a resolution calling for international action to maintain the momentum gained during IYDP. The Council urged its national societies to appeal to Governments to support at the thirty-seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly measures aiming at strengthening activities of the United Nations Secretariat in the fields of disability prevention and rehabilitation. The CWOIH suggested a structured evaluation of the IYDP activities undertaken by each member organization through its national affiliates. The results will be sent to CWOIH headquarters in New York for global synthesizing. The CWOIH also worked out some criteria on which evaluation of IYDP could be based. An IYDP evaluation questionnaire was prepared by CWOIH for national non-governmental organizations.

148. One of the most important results of the Year was the creation and promotion of organizations of disabled persons. Thus, the First Founding Congress of Disabled People's International was held in Singapore from 30 November to 6 December 1981. Participants in the Congress adopted a number of documents and declarations calling upon disabled persons to struggle for full participation and equality.

149. Representatives of associations and institutions for the promotion of disabled persons from the West African Subregion, meeting in Lome (Togo) from 17 to 20 November 1980, decided to establish a "West Africa Federation of Associations for the Promotion of Disabled Persons". This organization has adopted a Plan of Action.

150. The European Centre for Social Welfare, Training and Research undertook the study of vocational rehabilitation of disabled persons in European Countries. In 1981-1982 the Centre focused its research on an analysis of the central factors that constitute the system of vocational rehabilitation in the different countries and also on development of indicators that can be used for a comparison of the different systems of vocational rehabilitation.

151. In connexion with IYDP, the European Action on Disability (EAD) has made available in English, French, German and Dutch some publications pertaining to the disabled.

152. The European Alliance of Muscular Dystrophy Associations adopted a resolution inviting European Governments to support the activities of National Muscular Dystrophy Associations.

153. In connexion with IYDP, the International Civil Airports Association (ICAA) published a modified and amended second edition of the ICAA Manual on Recommended Measures for helping physically handicapped persons to use airports. The International Air Transport Association has made it obligatory on all member airlines to render flights accessible to disabled persons.

154. The International Children's Institute, in collaboration with the Nordic School of Public Health (Sweden), organized in Sweden an intensive workshop of Public Health Administrators responsible for training in the field of specialized



education, pedagogs, psychologists and physicians from the five Nordic countries and seven Western and Southern European countries.

155. The International Union for Childhood Protection issued a special publication in connexion with IYDP.

156. In 1981, a special disabled persons branch was set up within Caritas International. The International Organization of Consumers (IOCU), at its World Congress in June 1981, set up a technical group to co-ordinate testing and research for disabled consumers.

157. The Helen Keller International (HKI) prepared a study on the subject of research relevant to blindness in the developing world. The document is to be used as a guideline to determine future priorities in research in developing countries; In early 1981, HKI launched a non-formal education programme designed to provide basic services at Indonesian villages level, and to train local field workers to teach blind children and young adults orientation and mobility, manual dexterity, personal hygiene, cooking, cleaning and simple vocational trades. HKI launched its first full-scale basic eye care programme in South America, which is to be concentrated in the jungle areas of the Paraputo (Peru).

158. The Executive Committees of the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind and the International Federation of the Blind (IFB) met in May 1981 in Gothenberg, Sweden, with a view to intensifying and widening the co-operation between the two organizations. A joint statement on IYDP was issued and a Recommendation on Co-operation between IFB and WFWB affiliates at the national level was adopted.

159. Activities of the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind (WCWB) during IYDP concentrated mainly at national levels and were organized by WCWB's national affiliates and included the following:

- (a) Competitions for blind musicians in Czechoslovakia;
- (b) European sports Championship for the blind, and the International Congress of the Multi-Handicapped Blind in the Federation Republic of Germany;
- (c) Training of professional workers from the developing countries by WCWB's national member in India's Rehabilitation Department;
- (d) Plans to increase production of Braille and talking books in the United Kingdom;
- (e) Two seminars for blind women in Asia and in Africa;
- (f) Studies on the situation of blind women;
- (g) Research of new forms of employment for blind persons in the agricultural field and in the employment of blind intellectuals.

- (h) International Mobility Conference organized by the French WCNB;
- (i) International Conference on the Social Integration of the blind in Sicily;
- (j) Rural Training Seminar for the Blind in Malawi;
- (k) Leadership Training Seminar for heads of organizations of and for the blind, in French-speaking West Africa;
- (l) Questionnaire was distributed to WCNB's members to evaluate the impact of the Year at national level.

160. The International Council for Education of the Visually Handicapped (ICEVH) sponsored training courses in Africa (Ethiopia, Nigeria, Kenya), in Europe (Greece), in the Middle East (Bahrain), in the Latin American and the Caribbean region (Jamaica, Argentina, Costa Rica, Guatemala) and in Asia (Thailand, Indonesia).

161. The International Federation of Multiple Sclerosis Societies made specific contributions to IYDP at its Kyoto Council Meeting held in September 1981. The Federation's Ad Hoc Committee on Disability Scales heard reports on preliminary trials of the usefulness of the Disability Rating Scale in a number of countries of the Federation. The Committee recommended that a review should be planned for the Federation meeting at Edinburgh in 1982 in order to examine the validity of the scale. The new IFMSS Disability Rating Scale was to be submitted to WHO. In October 1981, internationally recognized experts assembled in Bellagio (Italy) to discuss ways of preparing an international lexicon on technical aids for the disabled.

162. An Intensive Training Workshop in family management of problems arising from mental retardation and related disabilities in Asia, which was expected to be held in 1981, had been postponed to 1982.

163. Plans for a similar project, but adapted to the needs of the African situation, have been developed, and timed to take place during the eighth World Congress of the International League of Societies for Persons with Mental Handicaps (Nairobi, Kenya, November 1982). The main theme of the Congress is "Partnership", while the main purpose will be the recognition of persons with mental handicap as full citizens.

164. In Gothenburg, Sweden (May 1981), the International Federation of Pedestrians in collaboration with the Swedish Government organized an International Conference on the adaptation of the physical environment for the full participation of disabled persons. The Conference pointed out that, out of the 500 million disabled people in the world, 30 million are the victims of traffic accidents.

165. The League of Red Cross societies organized, as part of its IYDP activities, an International Workshop, together with the Norwegian Red Cross, using the theme "The Disabled and the Community: Assistance and Technical Aids for Disabled Persons and their Families".

166. The International Round Table for the Advancement of Counselling (IRTAC) held an International Consultation on the integration of disabled persons society, in Florence (April 1981) in support, and as a contribution, towards IYDP.
167. Several of the 43 National Member Associations of the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) held conferences and seminars on IYDP related themes.
168. FIMITIC (Federation Internationale des Mutilés Invalides du Travail et Invalides) organized a big IYDP related demonstration on 21 March 1981 at Geneva, with the participation of 2,300 disabled persons.
169. Thirty member countries, representing more than 50 organizations, sent replies to a questionnaire on the disabled submitted by the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations.
170. The International Council of Women took a number of initiatives on behalf of disabled children and their families.
171. The International Council of Jewish Women, through its affiliates at national and international levels, initiated programmes with particular emphasis on disabled children.
172. At the end of the International Year, a summary of assistance and awareness programmes undertaken by Soroptimists, was to be compiled.
173. the International Coalition on Sexuality and Disability (ICSD), as a membership organization of approximately 1,000 individuals and organizations throughout the United States of America and overseas, has set as its major goal for 1981 the access of disabled persons to sexual health care.
174. As part of its programme during IYDP, Amnesty International started to document cases of government-condoned torture of citizens who became disabled, and to seek, on the victims' behalf, appropriate medical treatment and rehabilitation.
175. A considerable number of IYDP related projects have been undertaken by the member organizations of the World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT).
176. There are also examples of IYDP related activities by multinational private companies. Thus, on the occasion of IYDP, IBM Europe undertook programmes in Europe at more than \$US 1.1 million, including \$60,000 to UNESCO to support the publication costs of a book for the education of blind children, and \$35,000 to UNHCR Special Fund for disabled refugees. The Phonogram International Record Company as mentioned above produced an IYDP related record.
177. National Offices of the Experiment in International Living hosted disabled experimenters, so as to allow them to immerse themselves in the local culture.
178. the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) published a special issue of its Medical Bulletin to mark IYDP on the theme "Impact of a disabled Child on the family".

179. Through its philatelic programme which consists in distributing press releases and information sheets on IYDP to journalists, philatelic associations, and schools in many parts of the world, World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) contributed to the awareness campaign on IYDP. WFUNA contributed a painting and limited edition lithograph to accompany the United Nations stamp issue of 6 March 1981 commemorating IYDP.

180. United Nations Associations in Australia, Austria, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Hungary, India, Ireland, Poland, Sweden, Thailand and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland took active part in the activities of their IYDP National Committees.

181. The International Federation of the Hard of Hearing has been seeking improvements in the following fields: causes and prevention of hearing loss in neo-natals; early detection of hearing loss in infants; provisions of facilities for improved communication for the hard of hearing; and the question of a symbol for access for either the deaf and the hard of hearing or for the over-all group of the hearing impaired.

182. The International Cerebral Palsy Society (ICPS) has been engaged in an International SAVE A BABY Campaign. The campaign is concerned principally with prevention of congenital handicap, and a number of individual countries have mounted local campaigns.

183. In addition to the organizations referred to above, the following non-governmental organizations have also reported activities undertaken in connexion with IYDP: International Association of Art, International Bureau of Tourism, International Catholic Child Bureau, International Children's Center, International Center of Films for Children and Young People, International Committee of the Red Cross, International Council of Nurses, International Committee for Aid to Humanitarian Organizations, International Committee on Public Relations, International Council of Goodwill Industries, International League Against Rheumatism, International Leprosy Association and International Federation of Library Associations.

## VI. CONCLUSION

184. It is the view of the Secretary-General that the wide array of activities at the national, regional and international levels described in the present report reflects the heightened interest generated by IYDP. The creation of national committees and similar bodies, the increased participation and involvement of disabled persons in all spheres of public and social life, the growing realization that disabled persons should and can contribute to the process of development by means of equalization of opportunity as a guiding principle towards implementing their full participation and equality and the intensification of international co-operation efforts on behalf of and for disabled persons, all underline the unusual impact which the proclamation and implementation of the Year has had in a relatively short period of time. At this critical juncture the Secretary-General thus firmly believes that it is essential to preserve the momentum created by the Year.

Notes

- 1/ The Japan Council for IDP, consisting of 113 organizations, prepared a Long-Term Programme of Action (1982-1991) which is independent from the Government's and which expresses the views of disabled people.
- 2/ In document A/36/471, p. 12, the following countries had been mentioned as interested in receiving assistance: Cyprus, Ghana, Haiti, Somalia, Zaire.
- 3/ Published by the Swedish Council for Building Research, Stockholm, 1982.

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