WORLD PLAN OF ACTION

United States of America: amendments to the Draft World Plan of Action contained in document E/CONF.66/5

INTRODUCTION

Paragraph 4

1. Add the following at the end of the paragraph:

"The implications for men's and women's roles in society are only poorly understood, giving rise to unfounded fears about social disruption, competition with men and so on, that impede faster progress toward the elimination of discrimination against women."

2. Insert the following new paragraph after paragraph 10:

"Women should be granted complete freedom by Governments to exercise their basic human right to control their fertility as set forth in the World Population Plan of Action (para. 14 (f)), according to their own goals and values, those of their families, and of the societies in which they live. This freedom enables women to participate in economic, social, and political life to the extent deemed desirable by all concerned. Additionally, women should be given access to adequate information, education, and services to enable them to exercise this right."

I. NATIONAL ACTION

Paragraph 17

3. Add the following at the end of the paragraph:

"The urgency of particular action may well vary according to changing local conditions. Each member nation should draw up a set of strategies or a plan of action that is appropriate to the conditions of that country bearing in mind the need for continual reassessment and change in light of changing conditions."
4. Add the following at the end of the paragraph:

"To this end, there should be maximum co-operation and interaction between national Governments and these institutions."

Paragraph 20 (insert underscored language)

5. Insert the words "including allocation of staff and budget," between the words "action" and "to implement."

Paragraph 21

6. Insert the words "staff and budget with appropriate enforcement authority should be provided so as to ensure" between the words "plans" and "that the".

New paragraph to follow paragraph 22

7. "A basic objective of any strategy for raising women's status and increasing their participation in public fields should be widespread availability of family planning services and information and education as to the use of such services. Almost all women need family planning to safeguard their health and that of their families, to enable them to have time for the improvement of their minds, to increase their confidence in themselves and in their collective potential, and to acquire marketable skills.

There should be prompt elimination of all legal, social, and financial barriers which prevent the often proclaimed right of individuals and couples to plan their families."

Paragraph 24

8. Add the words "if adequate staff and budget are allocated" after the words "national life".

Paragraph 25

9. Insert the words "relative to men" between the words "situation of women" and "in all fields".

Paragraph 28

10. Insert the words "including special staff and budget" between the words "Adequate provision" and "area dealt with".

Paragraph 29

11. Insert the words "funds should be available to encourage their active involvement." after the words "without discrimination".
Paragraph 30

12. Replace the words "Appropriate measures should also be taken to inform women" by the words "Women should be informed".

Paragraph 32

13. Reword the paragraph as follows:

"While some of the measures suggested could be carried out at nominal cost, implementation of this Plan will require a redefinition of priorities and changes in government expenditures and hiring patterns. Governments should be prepared to make such commitments impelled by concern for social justice and recognition of the under-utilization of women as a human resource. In order to ensure adequate allocation of funds, Governments should explore all available sources of support, including community resources and those of various private funding agencies and non-governmental organizations."

Paragraph 35

14. Replace subparagraph (c) by the following:

"(c) Equal access to education at all levels."

15. Add the following three subparagraphs:

"(h) Increased recognition of the economic value of work in the home with corresponding adjustment of laws and practices relating to: social security coverage, continuing education and training, re-employment, part-time employment (flexible work schedules) and preparation of economic statistics and reporting.

"(i) Increased recognition that the stereotyping of women in educational materials, public statements and in the communications media limits their role in society and implies a low status.

"(j) Improved delivery of health services with particular attention to the nutritional and reproductive needs of women."